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[SIXPENCE.]

FRENCH AND ENGLISH FREEDOM.

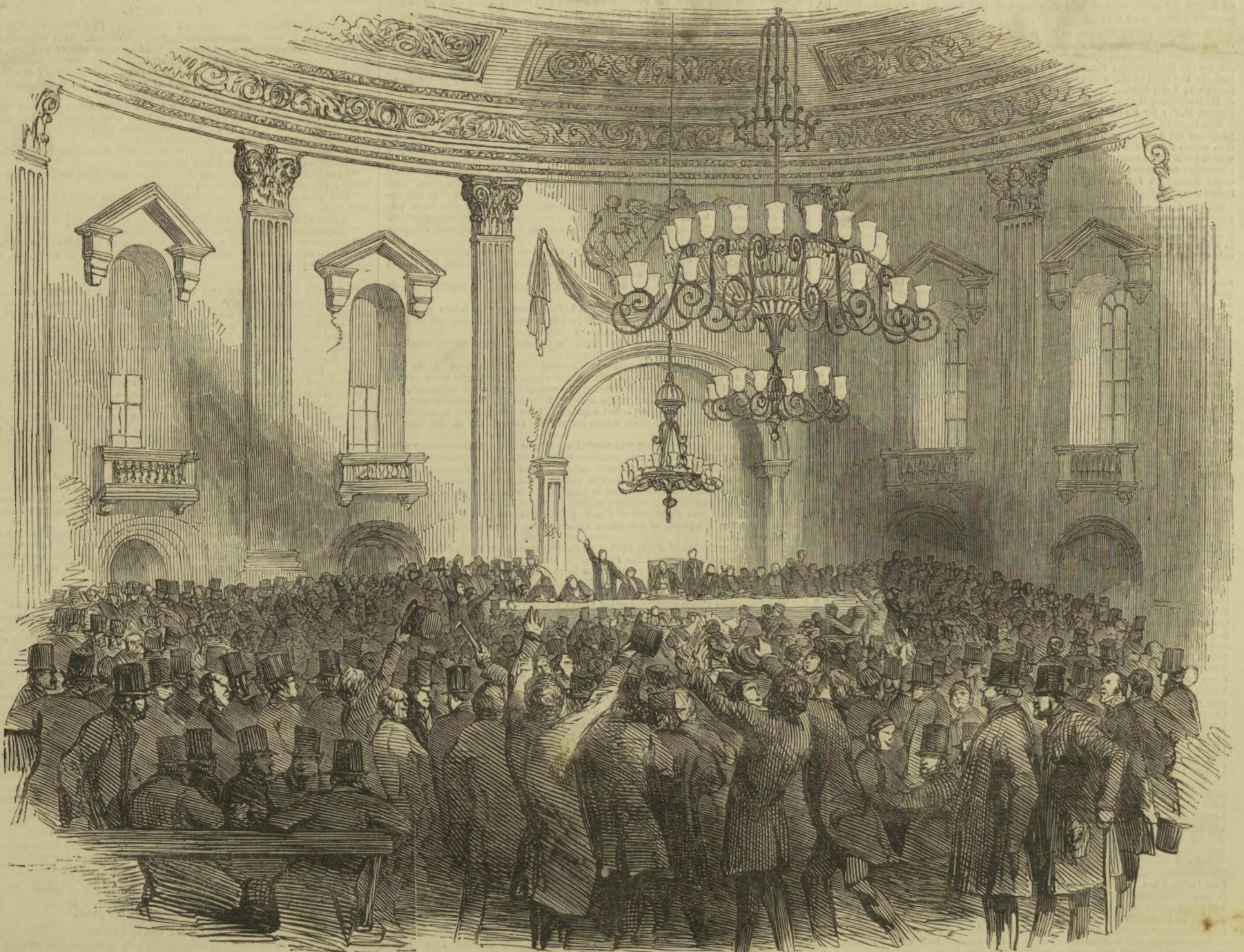
FRENCH Liberty is an abstraction, an idea, a fancy, for which a brave, a generous, a witty, and an intelligent people have made sacrifices unparalleled in the history of the world. But no Frenchman, from Louis XVI. down to Louis Napoleon, and from Robespierre and Marat down to Proudhon and Leroux, though perfectly able to comprehend the illimitable nature of the liberty he required for himself, has ever been able to render that liberty compatible with the liberty of other people. French liberty, or the thing that goes by that name, has no toleration, and real liberty becomes in consequence impossible.

Last week the tailors of London met, to the number of three or four thousand, in Exeter Hall, and peaceably detailed their wrongs and grievances one to the other, and peaceably agreed upon a formal resolution expressive of what in their estimation would remedy them. During the previous week, the cooks and marmitons of Paris announced a public meeting for a similar purpose. No sooner did their intention reach the ears of the Government, than the police were despatched to prevent the meeting as dangerous to the public peace. Possibly the French Government was right in the exercise of what we in this country should call a most unwarrantable stroke of arbitrary power, and did no more than its duty in preventing those warlike and intolerant cooks from running a tilt against society, with spits for spears and dish-covers for helmets. The truth is that Frenchmen cannot safely be trusted with the right of public

meeting. The indignant denunciations of the English platform, which answer their purpose of raising a round of applause, or of exciting a pleasant, and in no wise unsafe, degree of irritation in the sluggish bosom of John Bull, fall upon combustible materials when scattered among a crowd of Frenchmen. A great French author remarked, before the revolution of February, 1848, in reference to the January Reform banquets of M. Odillon Barrot and his co-agitators, that the French were not to be trusted in public, and that they could not understand the being called together merely to listen to speeches. They always imagined that something was to be done,—and that the indignation of words and phrases was but the natural and legitimate prelude to the indignation of the fist and the bullet. English peace meetings are somewhat warlike in tone; but a peace meeting composed entirely of Frenchmen would in all probability become warlike in fact. The French Government knows the combustible temperament of his Majesty the people, and will not allow him to excite himself. The Government is prudent: but, nevertheless, it must be humiliating to the French to reflect that their long and sanguinary struggles have been in vain; and that though in theory they enjoy ten times the liberty of the more phlegmatic English, they do not in fact enjoy the tithe of it. Even an election by universal suffrage is not free. The latest accounts from Paris inform us that the framers of the Constitution unaccountably forgot to fix any limits within which new elections must take place when vacancies occur in the Legislative Assembly; and that the Government, dreading the success of Socialist candidates

in several departments at present unrepresented, was for a long time undecided whether all these elections should not be postponed *sine die*. This was considered, after due reflection, to be rather too despotic for a free Republic; and the elections will take place—in a month or two! The Government has resolved, however, that the Socialists shall be muzzled, and prevented from throwing lighted matches into the “villanous saltpetre” of the rural intellect in the departments. When the law restricting the sale of newspapers was passed last year, a clause was inserted, to the effect that for forty-five days before the general elections, the sale of papers, addresses, and circulars, of whatever kind, should be free. The Government contend that this law does not apply to special elections, and have given orders that the addresses of any candidate opposed to the Government shall not be distributed without special permission from the prefects. Much as John Bull hates revolutions, and quiet as he usually is, it is much to be doubted whether he would patiently endure such an outrage upon his liberty. A contested election is the Englishman's saturnalia, when he may use abusive language, get drunk, smash windows, and make a fool of himself, with perfect impunity. But an election row in France, instead of being a harmless local hubbub, would be a signal for insurrection; so, until they understand liberty a little better, their rulers have determined that they shall enjoy as little of it as possible.

There is the same want of toleration even in the Hall of the Legislature. There is, strictly speaking, no freedom of debate;



GREAT PROTESTANT MEETING IN THE ROTUNDO, DUBLIN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

and the unhappy president of the Assembly is powerless, either to preserve order or to enforce respect for his own office and the right of free discussion. In England, the House of Commons is sometimes free enough, in the least favourable sense of the term. It is a part of a member's privilege to sit with his hat on—to lie full-length in the gallery benches, and fall asleep; nay, it is part of his right even to snore—a right which he sometimes exercises. In the heat of debate, he may express dissent from his opponent in a somewhat peculiar fashion: he may stamp with his feet, or imitate the crowing of a cock or the braying of a donkey; but he never forgets the respect that is due to the dignified chairman, whom he has himself been instrumental in electing, or whom perhaps he opposed; and should he overstep for a moment the decency of debate, a word recalls him to a sense of his error—he tacitly confesses that he himself is a gentleman, by acknowledging that he is in a society of gentlemen and obeying the unwritten laws of courtesy and good breeding. How different is the case in the French Assembly. The impulsive character of the mob outside finds its representatives within; and sometimes with a good feeling, and sometimes with an evil one, scenes are enacted which are utterly incompatible with the dignity of a Senate, or the ordinary usages of gentlemen in other countries. Not long ago, the brother of the president—not of the Republic, but of the Assembly—made a very able speech. The president was much pleased and much affected, and, leaving the chair, descended to the tribune, and gave the orator a fraternal hug in token of his approval. We have but to fancy Mr. Shaw Lefevre in such a position, to see at a glance the calm and judicial character of the English mind, compared with that of the French. The president is completely at the mercy of the Assembly, and sits in his chair by sufferance. If order be disturbed, he has authority to ring a little bell; if the warning be disregarded, as it almost invariably is, he can ring again till his wrist aches with the exertion. Should it be still disregarded, he can put his hat on. Beyond that he has no power. The consequence is that the members say what they please, and have no more awe of, or respect for, the president than they have for each other.

It is not easy to change the character of a people, or to cool the brains of those who are constitutionally heated; but, supposing the French fortunate enough to discover and to elect a judicious, cool, urbane, impartial president for the first Assembly in the land, it would be worth their while to invest him, for the sake of real freedom, with the powers of repression when real liberty was invaded. To be ordered into the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms in the English House of Commons, although the detention be merely nominal, and do not last five minutes, is an infliction which no member likes to incur. It costs from twenty to thirty pounds, in fees, to be released. Might not the French with great advantage arm M. Dupin with the same powers? To be mulcted of a month's salary for a breach of order would cool the blood of the hottest Mountaineer; and members would speedily cease to cast the words "liars" and "brigands" at one another. Liberty, deprived of this license of the tongue, would be more real; and the Government, the Chamber, and the people would severally be the gainers by the higher tone of public sentiment that would be the necessary result of a change so desirable.

PROTECTION MOVEMENT IN IRELAND.

THE great demonstration of Peers, commoners, landowners, &c., which had been announced for some time previously, took place in Dublin, on Thursday week, and was noticed briefly in our Postscript of last Saturday. We now subjoin a somewhat fuller account of the proceedings, and accompanying the report with an Engraving illustrative of this expression of the national will, as at least its promoters designated it to be.

The meeting was held in one of the capacious saloons of the Rotundo, in Sackville-street, and commenced shortly before noon, by the Marquis of Downshire being voted to the chair. Among those assembled on the platform were the Marquis of Westmeath; the Earl of Shannon; the Earl of Glengall; the Earl of Roden; the Earl of Mayo; the Earl of Bandon; the Earl of Howth; Lord Castlemaine; Lord Clements; Colonel Dunne, M.P.; Colonel Chatterton, M.P.; Mr. J. H. Hamilton, M.P.; Mr. G. A. Hamilton, M.P.; Mr. E. Grogan, M.P.; Colonel Taylor, M.P.; Sir Edward Kennedy; Sir George Fetherstone, &c.

The Earl of Glengall, who was one of the chief promoters of the movement, proposed the first resolution. He said, "My Lords and gentlemen, the resolution which I have the honour to propose for adoption by this assembly is one which I feel quite confident must meet with its ready approbation. It is a resolution expressive of the regard and affection entertained by our most gracious Sovereign for all classes of her Irish subjects, and its terms are as follows:—

"That we feel entirely persuaded of the great regard and affection entertained by our most gracious Sovereign for all classes of her Irish subjects; and that, concurring in her Royal sympathy and good-will, we consider that, under the deplorable circumstances in which Ireland is placed, we best discharge our duty to our Sovereign, as well as to our country, in representing to her Majesty, by our humble petition, the unprecedented misery and distress to which this once prosperous island has been reduced."

After some preliminary observations, the noble Earl said:—"Every man possessed of a rational mind must know that the present state of things in Ireland could not continue much longer without all classes of the community being dragged down together into the common vortex of ruin. (Cheers.) But, gentlemen, we are told it is a landlords' question. (Hear, hear.) Most undoubtedly it is; but it is also a tenant-farmers' question. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) And it is likewise a merchant's question, a shopkeeper's question, a shipowner's question, a colonial question. (Cheers.) I will tell you, also, what it is; it is a mechanic's question; and what is, perhaps, of more importance than all—it is a labourer's question. (Cheers.) It is also essentially an Irish question, and a question of vital interest to every man who has two arms, and who desires to live by honest industry. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) We are told over and over again that this Anti-Free-trade cry, and the movement now being made in favour of Protection, is a mere question of landlords and high rents. But why, in truth, are the Irish landlords so grossly abused? Why has a set been made upon them for the last ninety years? I will tell you; it is because they are a class of men who are loyal to the backbone ('Hear, hear, and loud cheers'); it is because they are loyal to the British Crown and to the British Constitution, and have set at defiance the juggling of sordid demagogues. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) And because, I might add, they would not bow to the brazen serpent which the ungodly have set up. (Hear, hear.) That is the reason why the Irish landlords are abused; but let the people of England once understand the real nature of our position, and depend upon it a different policy will soon be adopted towards this country. (Cheers.) We have no manufactures in this country, and every single article of iron, brass, tin, or copper which is used in Ireland comes to us from England. ('Hear, hear, and cheers.') Moreover, every article of cloth, earthenware, or china, whether it be used by the nobleman or the peasant, comes over here from the other side of the Channel. (Hear, hear.) Why, we are the best customers the English people have, and the destitution which has come upon Ireland has fallen back upon themselves. (Hear, hear.) We are not at present taking their manufactures, because they have destroyed our agriculture. ('Hear, hear, and cheers.') Under these circumstances, I would hope that when the English manufacturers take into their consideration the loss of their Irish market, they will perceive that the Irish bird in the hand is worth two of the foreign birds in the bush. ('Hear, hear, and loud cheers.') There is a word which used to be employed very much whenever the Free-Trade doctrines were inculcated into the minds of the people of England—a word which was used as a kind of talisman at their public meetings, and which led many to suppose that Free-Trade was the foundation-stone of universal prosperity. (Hear, hear.) That word was 'reciprocity.' (Hear, hear.) What has become of that word now? (Loud cheering.) I have lately read a good many of their Free-Trade speeches, but I never once met with one syllable about reciprocity. But, whilst I am on the subject of reciprocity, I may remark that a voice has recently come across the broad waters of the Atlantic, from the free and enlightened citizens of the greatest Republic in the western world. ('Hear, hear, and cheers.') He who fills the Presidential chair, and represents the opinions of twenty millions of people, tells you that they will take your cattle for their corn, and that they will uphold their present system of protective duties upon native industry. ('Hear, hear, and cheers.') We do not ask protection in this sense, that we wish for any advantage over the foreigner. But, gentlemen, before I have done, I have a crow to pluck with England. (Hear, hear.) We have been grossly mislaid by a section of some parties in that country. Those parties should recollect, before they proceed with their abuse, why it is that Ireland has been late a mill-stone around the neck of England. (Hear, hear.) Remember how, from the year 1650 down to the year 1782, a period of 130 years, the British Parliament acted towards this country. (Hear, hear.) It cannot be forgotten that they prohibited every species of Irish produce and of Irish manufacture from entering England, to the ruin and destruction both of our agriculture and our manufactures; of the latter they made very short work. (Hear, hear.) They even denied us the power of trading with the colonies, and treated us, in fact, as a conquered country. (Hear, hear.) Is it, then, a matter of surprise that Ireland is not as prosperous as England? Indeed, the thing that surprises me is, that we have so far weathered the storm. True it was that in 1782 the voice of Ireland was too strong for our oppressors, and then we ob-

tained something like justice, and were dealt with as fellow-mortals, and fellow-Christians. I do not think we shall allow this state of things to exist many months longer; if we do, I can only say, it must be our own fault. (Hear, hear.) The people of Ireland are determined to speak out. The real and true way for the people of Ireland to remedy their grievances was this—let them reform their representatives. (Loud cries of 'Hear, hear, hear.') It was all nonsense going on in the way they were—they must be properly represented; and the way to do this was, when they left that assembly and went home to their country residence, let them form societies which would have for their object the inspection of the registers. (Hear, hear.) Let them get every man who was qualified to register his vote; let them make all the friends of the cause register in every county and borough (hear, hear); let them find out who could register, and force them by the most gentlemanly persuasions (laughter) to attend at the quarter sessions, and get them to put their names upon the books. (Hear, hear.) By that means they would return to Parliament a good hundred men from Ireland, and that phalanx of men would compel the Minister ('Hear, hear, and cheers') to redress the grievances of Ireland. (Hear, hear.) In the present state of parties in England, I would be glad to know how Ministers could withstand 100 Irish members? If, continued the noble Lord, "they (the English) do not redress our grievances, we will redress them ourselves. (Cheers.) We will do as our forefathers did in the famous year of 1782—(cheers)—and I would recommend our oppressors to begin a new system of policy as regards Ireland at once, for fear it should be too late. (Hear, hear.) 'It is too late,' are ominous words in these times—(hear, hear)—and I tell them it may occur that the people of Ireland may tell them that their concessions came too late. (Hear, hear.) And I tell you, gentlemen, one and all, to remember what our forefathers did in 1782." (Tremendous cheering.)

Mr. George Macartney seconded the resolution, which was agreed to after Messrs. Fitzgibbon and Boylan had spoken in support of it.

The Marquis of Westmeath, after some flattering remarks on Messrs. Fitzgibbon and Boylan, proposed the next resolution:—

"That the interests of all classes in this country are rapidly deteriorating; that within the last four years the population has been fearfully diminished from famine and disease; that in many parts of Ireland whole districts of land remain uncultivated, while the best and most industrious classes are emigrating from the country, and those who remain are unable, by any amount of enterprise or exertion, to bear up against the evils by which they are surrounded; and it is the deliberate opinion of this meeting, that unless measures be speedily devised to stay the downward progress of events, Ireland will, at no distant day, be reduced to pauperism and ruin."

His Lordship, after adverting to the equivocal position in which he had been placed, and remarking upon the iniquities of English legislation, proceeded to comment on the Poor-law, observing—"At the close of the last session of Parliament Lord John Russell—(hisses)—told the House of Commons that the Poor-law was working well. ('Oh, oh!') Now, when Lord J. Russell made that declaration, was he half asleep? (Hear, hear.) But he was not the man to sleep at his post. Was he inebriated? (Laughter.) He is too much a gentleman to be in that state when about to perform a duty. What, then, is the conclusion we are entitled to come to? Whether he was deceived by those under him, or not, he is utterly unfit to be at the head of the Government—(cheers)—and it should be our purpose, if possible, to do our utmost to remove him." (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Butt, Q.C., seconded the resolution; which was supported by Mr. H. Grattan, M.P., who avowed himself an ardent Protectionist; and it was then agreed to.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Preston, the third resolution was put. It urged that a committee take instant steps to lay the petition before her Majesty.

Resolutions to the following effect were also passed, viz.:—

The Fourth—Declaring all Irish interests to have been sacrificed by the Imperial policy, the only remedy for which was a return to Protection.

The Fifth—Condemnation of the Irish Poor-law.

The Sixth—Demanding the development of the great resources of Ireland.

The Seventh—Favourable to an adjustment of the relations between landlord and tenant.

The Eighth—Calling on the Irish Members to support no political parties who would not listen to their just demands for redress. And, finally,

The Ninth—Which urged the propriety, in the event of the prayer of the petitioners being disregarded, of petitioning the Queen to dissolve Parliament.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The discussion on a bill before the French Chamber, for transporting the remaining unparoled insurgents of June to Algeria, has presented again a series of those stormy scenes which have attached so much unpleasant notoriety to the proceedings of that Assembly. On Tuesday the following scene, which led to a duel, was enacted:—

M. de Testelin, in opposition to the motion of the committee, proposed an amendment, "To have the insurgents sent before the Council of War." In supporting the amendment, M. de Testelin took the opportunity of stating that a member of the majority (M. de Kerdel) had the day before uttered a threat to the Minister of the Interior against the President of the Republic, declaring "We will pass this bill; but if the President pardons any one of these men, as he has already done, let him beware!" (*garde à lui!*)

M. Ferdinand Barrot, the Minister of the Interior, denied that anything in the shape of a threat had been uttered—he would not have permitted it.

M. de Kerdel said that he was the person who had conversed with the Minister of the Interior the day before. (Cries of "Do not reply.")

M. de Coislin: Do not reply to such a shameful act of espionage.

A scene of great confusion here ensued; several members attempting to make themselves heard by the Assembly. Loud exclamations proceeded from every side.

M. de Kerdel said, he must ask permission to speak. He had the day before, when the sitting was virtually over, been engaged with the Minister of the Interior in familiar conversation, and when so, he certainly never once supposed that any representative would act the eavesdropper. (Sensation.) He had made no threat whatever. He had merely expressed his regret that, on a late occasion, the Assembly had been deprived of the credit of voting an amnesty, which a few days after had been granted from another quarter. "I spoke thus," said the hon. representative, "familiarly with the Minister; and if I did so it was because I knew that no one was present but representatives. I reckoned on a private conversation being held sacred by them—I see now that I was wrong to form any such opinion." (Loud applause, over and over again repeated, with clapping of hands.)

M. Testelin ascended the tribune, and was greeted with loud expressions of indignation. (Cries of "eavesdropper," "listener at doors," were heard.) He was no eavesdropper. The sitting was not over.

M. de Coislin: Was that a reason for falsely reporting the words of M. de Kerdel?

M. Testelin: You insult a member of the Left. (A voice: "It is you who have placed yourself in that position.") I have just been told that I have not told the truth. (On the Left: "Leave the tribune.")

The hon. gentleman then descended from the tribune, amidst strong marks of disgust from various parts of the Chamber.

In consequence of the alleged insult cast during this scene upon M. de Testelin by M. de Coislin, a duel was determined upon, and friends were immediately selected to conduct the preliminaries, which being duly arranged, the principals and their seconds met in the Bois de Boulogne, on Wednesday morning with broadswords. The combat lasted a quarter of an hour, when M. de Coislin received a wound across the head, which terminated the affair. M. de Testelin escaped without injury.

On Wednesday the discussion was carried on in the same tumultuous way as disgraced the previous sitting; so much so, indeed, that one member, an ardent Republican, declared that the spectacle offered by the Assembly during the last three days was most fatal to the Republic, and that the insane speeches delivered during the discussion were calculated to place it in the greatest peril.

In general politics there is nothing calling for notice.

It is said that the President of the Republic has received a very flattering letter from the Emperor of Russia—a favour which Louis Philippe was never able to obtain.

After the Revolution of July, 1830, a ukase was issued, forbidding the Russian authorities to grant passports for France. A similar ukase was issued after the revolution of February, 1848; but orders have just been given by the Emperor of Russia to withdraw the ukase. Official notice to this effect has been given to the French Government.

The Prince de Canino has forwarded to the Legislative Assembly the following petition:—"In my quality of French citizen, I demand to be allowed to enter France like my brothers Pierre Antoine, Louis Lucien Bonaparte; like my uncle Jerome, and his son; and like my first cousin, Louis Napoleon Bonaparte."

According to some of the journals, the affairs of Rome are likely to become more complicated, from the fact that the Court of Vienna insists upon all the French troops being withdrawn from Rome, which the Republican Ministry are not disposed to grant.

PORTUGAL.

Rumours *à la Madrid* have reached us that Don Miguel was about to march into Portugal, at the head of his partisans, with the object of regaining the throne.

PRUSSIA.

Accounts from Berlin, of the 18th instant, state, that negotiations between Denmark and Prussia, respecting the Schleswig-Holstein dispute, were at length seriously about to commence, at the pressing entreaties of the Earl of Westmoreland, the British Ambassador at Berlin. The Plenipotentiaries of each power exchanged the formal preliminaries on the 17th; and each party was expected to set assiduously to work, in order to bring this litigious question to a satisfactory close.

SWITZERLAND.

Some disturbances have broken out at Geneva, in Switzerland, which at one time assumed a very alarming appearance. The following particulars have reached us:—

"The members of the Federal Association and of the clubs resolved to give the Government a day's labour for demolishing the fortifications, and they marched to the work every morning accompanied by music, and singing the 'Marseillaise.' The peaceable people took alarm at these menacing promenade, and the Government called on the musicians to give up their drums and instruments. This the musicians refused, and, on the 17th instant, the gendarmes arrested them as they entered the town at the head of the people. Immediately a mob assembled and commenced an attack on the Town Hall. M. Raymond and M. Beaumont attempted to harangue the crowd, but they were hooted. M. James Fazy, the idol of the mob, also came forward to speak, but he was not listened to. On retiring,

he sent orders for fifty gendarmes to come to the Town-hall. They arrived at five o'clock, fully armed, and with their bayonets fixed. The mob shouted 'Down with the bayonets!' 'To arms!' The gendarmes succeeded in forcing an entrance into the Town-hall, with the exception of three, who were thrown down and disarmed. The mob then commenced beating at the doors of the Town-hall; and, as they did so, they roared the 'Marseillaise.' Their attitude was so threatening, that profound alarm was caused in the city, and the shops were closed. The general *rappel* was beaten; but at length M. Fazy and the other members of the Government, in the hope of appeasing the mob, released the refractory musicians. This had a good effect; and after a while the mob dispersed, though not before they had made a threatening demonstration beneath the windows of two councillors of state noted for their moderation."

TURKEY.

Later advices than those published last week state that though Russia has resumed diplomatic relations with the Porte, Austria has not. The list of Hungarians whose localisation is demanded by the latter power is thirty-two; but as it is to remain open two months longer, several names will still be added.

The following are the names of the persons whose extradition was demanded by Russia, but to whose removal she now confines her demand:—General Dembinski, Severin Korserski, Main Szazinski, Stanislas Hondreski, Edouard Demarski, Stanislas Hondreski, Adam Donatchewski, Jules Zabadzinski, Jacques Mianianovich, Stanislas Gregenski, François Daschkevich, General Bem, General Wysecki, and Count Zamoyski. This number has been reduced to twelve, because General Bem has embraced Islamism, and Count Zamoyski has claimed the benefit of his right of a naturalised Frenchman.

ITALIAN STATES.

From the Peninsula we have nothing but rumours. At Rome, people begin almost to despair of the Pope's return. It is said, nevertheless, that his return is at hand, and that he will pass some time at Bologna, by way of feeling the pulse of public opinion, previous to his re-entry into the Eternal City.

RUSSIA.

Some five months ago, a political conspiracy to rid Russia of the Autocrat and his Government was discovered at St. Petersburg, and the investigation connected with it has just terminated. Twenty-one of the leaders have been sentenced to death, but their punishment has been commuted to hard labour for life in the mines and on the fortifications, or incorporation in the ranks of the army. They were generally young men of rank and education.

UNITED STATES.

Intelligence to the 8th inst. has been received from New York. The United States Congress was very active, and several important debates had already taken place. The question of the Wilmot proviso (the extension or restriction of slavery) was also on the *tapis*, discussed with its usual heat and violence. A resolution in the House of Representatives had been passed, calling upon them for information respecting British aggression in Central America; and resolutions had been moved in the House of Representatives, to inquire into the expediency of establishing territorial Governments, or of admitting as States into the Union, California, Deseret, and New Mexico (Santa Fé).

General Cass had moved in the Senate, "That the Committee on Foreign Relations be instructed to inquire into the expediency of suspending diplomatic relations with Austria." He supported his motion of inquiry as to the propriety of suspending diplomatic intercourse with Austria, in an able and energetic speech, in which he denounced the executions of the Hungarian leaders and other persons connected with the recent insurrection against the Austrian Government as cruelties. In the course of his remarks, General Cass said:—"A power thus setting at defiance the opinion of the world, and violating the very best feelings of our nature, in the very wantonness of successful cruelty, has no bond of union with the American people. The sooner our diplomatic intercourse is dissolved with marks of indignant reprobation, the sooner shall we perform an act of public duty." Mr. Hale said, that, as the resolution proposed a change in the policy of the Government, he hoped it would not be hastily acted upon.

Nothing definite has been yet done on the subject. Since the matter had been introduced into Congress by General Cass, it had penetrated even the legislatures of the States. In the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, a resolution was offered on the 2nd, calling upon the senators and representatives of the State in Washington to use all honourable means to signify to the Austrian Government the disapprobation of the American people towards the Austrian treatment of the Magyars, as well as to use their exertions to procure the discontinuance of all diplomatic intercourse with that nation until it acknowledges the independence of the Hungarians. Mr. Clay, it is said, is opposed to such a movement, and gives a very sensible reason for opposing it, namely, that the very fact of any Government being capable of committing such inhumanities on defenceless subjects renders it especially necessary that the United States Government should have a Minister accredited to it for the protection of American citizens, in the event of any of them being so unfortunate as to get within the claws of the Austrian eagle.

The American mail steamers are, it is said, to resume running from New York to Southampton in February, instead of waiting till the spring, as before announced. The *Washington* is to sail from New York on the 20th proximo.

CALIFORNIA.

From this El Dorado the accounts are very sad. There was some apprehension of famine, or, at least, of a great scarcity of provisions. It is possible, however, that such a prospect may be much magnified by speculators; and if so, they had not, up to the sailing of the last steamer, been altogether unsuccessful, as provisions of all kinds brought the most extravagant prices. We have the melancholy intelligence from Santa Fé, that thirty-two Californian emigrants had been murdered by the Indians on the plains.

In a private letter from San Francisco, the writer says:—"Many will die in California, and many will repent the day they ever started for this far-off promised land." The writer (a Philadelphian) then adds:—

"Liquor sells at from 25 to 50 cents a glass.

"We secured the services of a pilot from San Francisco to the diggings at Sacramento City, and we paid him 500 dollars!

"I am just recovering from an attack of marsh fever; medicine, six dollars a bottle; physicians' fees too frightful to name.

"The work and exposure at the mines are beyond belief: three out of five return sick.

"A pair of chickens are worth five dollars; potatoes, 37¢ c. per lb.

"Cannot live at all under three and four dollars a day.

"In conclusion, I would not advise any one of my friends to undertake so hazardous an adventure. Money in abundance is here; sickness, too, is here in all its destroying forms."

CANADA.

In Canada political affairs are, on the whole, of a quiescent character. The Government authorities at Toronto were exercising their power to put down the annexation movement, by dismissing every magistrate and militia officer whom they considered favourable to the project. There were constant rumours at Montreal of change in the Ministry, and of its being on the point of disruption; indeed, it was reported that a leading Lower Canada Tory had been sent for by Lord Elgin. At a meeting of the Montreal branch of the British American League, held in that city on the 1st instant, resolutions were adopted in favour of electing a Council of Confederate Union, for the purpose of adopting measures for securing the independent union of the British provinces of North America. A declaration in favour of annexation to the United States, signed by 12,000 persons, had been received from one of the counties of Lower Canada; and it was reported that, at the election at Quebec, M. Chabot, who had been appointed chairman of the board of works, was to be strongly opposed by an annexationist.

MEXICO.

We have very exciting news from Mexico, namely, that there had been a revolt in the capital in favour of Santa Anna, who was expected to land on the coast. It was, however, suppressed by the Government, after the loss of many lives; and some accounts say, that two editors, five officers of distinction, and twenty-seven other persons had been shot.

The present Mexican Government, like all its predecessors, has become unpopular. Seditious movements are reported at Saltillo and other places. The American Republics peopled by Spaniards are amongst the most fickle in the world—constantly changing, and for ever the sport of military leaders and factions.

WEST INDIES.

Intelligence to the 23rd ult. from Jamaica communicates the fact of the duration of the session of the Legislature up to that time, when a few days' vacation for the Christmas holidays took place. A proposition, emanating from Mr. Bristowe, a member of the "King's House party," proposing the levying of an "income-tax," was negatived by a considerable majority. All parties in the House seemed to agree as to the necessity of at once making provision for the payment of the debt, and the upholding of the island's credit; the only difference which existed was as to the way in which such provision should be made. Mr. Lindo, member for St. Mary, and of the Country party, introduced a bill proposing to levy from 3d. to 1s. on each package of goods enumerated in the schedule attached to the bill. This measure, although not a party one, was likely to be agreed to after certain amendments to the schedule, for which purpose the bill had been referred to a select committee.

Very considerable dissatisfaction was evinced at the proposed alteration to be made in the route of the Royal mail packets, and the press of the island was loud in its disapprobation of the intended change, and strongly recommended the public to avail themselves of the American (New York) steamers for the transit of letters, &c. The American steamers arrive at Jamaica regularly, and usually leave in time to tranship any letters to the Cunard steamers leaving New York.

The Hon. Mr. Stanley, M.P., was still sojourning in the island. He had been frequently present at the Assembly, and had visited many other public places. The weather was sultry. With the exception of a few cases of dysentery, which had made its appearance, the island was generally healthy. The whole of the other islands were represented also as enjoying health.

War is again devastating the unfortunate island of Hayti. The Emperor Souleouque having marched against the Dominicans at the other side of the island. Any particulars of the campaign are not given.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

We have accounts from the Cape to the 16th of November, at which date the convict question remained in much the same unsatisfactory state as when the previous vessel quitted that shore. The *Neptune* still continued off the Cape; and although petitions after petitions had been presented to the Governor, Sir H. Smith, praying that he would order the *Neptune* away, he peremptorily refused, assigning as his reason that he would not commit "an act illegal, impolitic, and

of dangerous example." The colony was quiet; but several of the shopkeepers who had furnished the Government with provisions were utterly ruined, the colonists having refused to purchase of them any longer. Threats of actions for damages had been made by some of the tradesmen so circumstanced; but it was not expected that, if trial followed, the object sought would be obtained. The inhabitants of the interior districts continued to adhere firmly to the Anti-Convict Association at Cape Town.

INDIA.

Accounts from Bombay to the 17th ult., and Calcutta to the 7th, have been received during the week. The only news of a hostile character is that of a somewhat extraordinary affair which has taken place at Sikkim, a small principality, formerly a dependency of Nepal, near the frontier of Tibet, where two English officers, Doctor Campbell (the British Resident at Darjeeling) and his friend Doctor Hooker, both men of scientific repute, have been seized and thrown into confinement by the Rajah of that petty state, for having, in contravention of certain alleged treaties with the Thibet state, penetrated across the boundary line into the great table land beyond. The treatment of the prisoners is described as being barbarous and brutal. The dewan of the Rajah appears to have entertained the most implacable animosity towards Dr. Campbell; and hence much of the ill-treatment which that officer has experienced. Dr. Campbell's hands were bound in a cruel manner behind his back; and when he was asked questions, and delayed answering, the cords were tightened and drawn back with violence, so as to cause great pain.

Troops have been ordered to Darjeeling, for the chastisement of the Sikkim Rajah, and, at the same time, to effect the release of the two officers. It was reported that the territory would be annexed to our dominions. The Commander-in-Chief, Sir C. Napier, has taken the occasion of a court-martial on Lieut. Pulman, of the artillery, found guilty of fraud and perjury, to read the following sharp moral lecture to the military officers in India. It is couched in his official "remarks" upon the finding of the court-martial:—

I never confirmed the sentence of a court-martial that gave me more pain than I feel in confirming this, which dismisses from the service a young man of whose abilities I had formed a high opinion, when (some years ago) he served under my command in the field. The service has lost a clever officer, an honourable family is thrown into deep affliction, and a young man of great promise is utterly ruined in his profession, by a vice which has ruined three others since my arrival in India! It is, therefore, impossible for me not to call upon all who have common sense, resolution, and respect for their uniform, to join in the endeavour which I am making to repress those destructive vices which are so unfortunately prevalent in the European portion of the armies in India—drunkenness and gambling. Courts-martial are ready to show all practicable mercy to a prisoner; but they will not, and cannot, sacrifice the honour of the military profession to indulgent feelings for an individual, and so cause the ruin of numbers. Their sentences shall be carried into effect.

(Signed) C. J. NAPIER, General, Commander-in-Chief.

Notwithstanding former rumours to the contrary, it now appears that Sir Charles had no intention of returning to Europe till his term of service expired. Sir W. Cotton continues still at Bombay, nothing having reached him in reference to his successor.

At Madras a famine is apprehended: the rains, which usually set in in October, had not begun to fall till the end of November, and were then excessively scanty.

The health of the Governor-General is said to be materially improved; by last accounts he was at Lahore, where a magnificent spectacle was expected on the occasion of the investment of Sir W. R. Gilbert with the insignia of a G.C.B. The noble Marquis was thence to proceed to Mooltan, and afterwards steam down the Indus to Kurrachee, where he was expected on the 15th of January; and at Bombay about the 20th.

The Marchioness of Dalhousie, it was generally understood, was about to return home immediately.

Rumours of insubordination in the north-west provinces were rife. At Delhi, on the 30th of November, reports were current regarding the determination of certain regiments under orders for the Punjab not to cross the Sutlej, except on the same allowances as those that have hitherto been enjoyed by the regiments occupying that country, viz. extra pay; but Sir C. Napier was resolved to put down the movement *vi et armis*.

There had been rather a serious affray at Hyderabad, in the Nizam's dominions, owing to the ill-will existing between the rival Mussulman sects of Soonees and Sheeahs, and which always rises to excess at the time of the celebration of the festival of the Mohurrum. The fanatic populace, during the riot, burnt a house to the ground, and some eight or ten people were killed.

CHINA.

From Hong-Kong, under date December 3, we have accounts of the safe return on the 1st of that month of the vessels of war which had gone, under command of Commander J. D. Hay, on a cruise against the formidable pirate Shapung-tai. The object of the expedition was crowned with complete success, nearly the whole of the piratical fleet having been destroyed, without any loss whatever on the side of the British.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

VICE-ADMIRAL SCHOMBERG.

This distinguished seaman was eldest son of the late Captain Sir A. Schomberg, R.N. His family is a branch of that of the Duke of Schomberg who commanded the King's troops, and fell at the battle of the Boyne, aged 80. The gallant Vice-Admiral entered the navy in April, 1785, as Lieutenant of Solebay; and he commanded a body of 50 seamen, in conjunction with the army under Sir Charles Grey, during the operations against Martinique, St. Lucia, and Guadeloupe. He also served on shore when an attempt was made to re-conquer the posts in the island last-mentioned. His subsequent career during the whole of the late war was gallant and glorious. After passing through the different grades, he became a Vice-Admiral the 23rd Nov., 1841.

Vice-Admiral Schomberg suggested to Lord Melville a plan, much approved of at the time, although eight or nine years elapsed before any of his suggestions were adopted, for victualling the seamen and marines of the fleet, wherein he was the first to propose the substitution of tea, sugar, &c., for half the usual allowance of spirits.

The Vice-Admiral married, first, Catharine Anna, only surviving daughter of S. R. Stepany, Esq., of Castle Durrrow, King's County, Ireland; and secondly, 1st Oct. 1804, Anne, youngest daughter of the late Rear-Admiral R. Smith, of Poulton-cum-Seacombe, in Cheshire, whose mother had had the early care of King George III. By his first marriage he had one son, Herbert, a commander R.N.; and by his second, two, the elder of whom, Frederick Charles, holds the same rank in the service; the younger, George Augustus, is a first-lieutenant R.M.A. (1834). Vice-Admiral Schomberg died recently, in the 75th year of his age.

ROBERT SHEDDEN, ESQ.

The family of Shedden, originally of Scottish origin, has long been honourably connected with the commercial pursuits of the city of London, and many of its members have acquired great wealth. William Shedden, Esq., a merchant, the father of the gentleman whose death we are about to record, was fourth son of Robert Shedden, Esq., the head of the well-known London house of Shedden, and brother of George Shedden, Esq., of Paulerspury Park, co. Northampton. He married Wilhelmina, daughter of Captain William Miller, R.N., and died in 1820, leaving an only child, Robert Shedden, Esq., the subject of our present notice, who adopted the sea as an occupation, and was a distinguished navigator. The *Nancy Dawson* yacht, owned and commanded by him, sailed from England about two years since, on a voyage round the world, and with the intention of proceeding, at the end of their second year's absence from England, to prosecute a search, on this side, for the missing expedition under Sir John Franklin. She touched at Petropaulsk, Kamshatka—fell in with ice on the passage through Behring's Straits, and found her Majesty's ships *Herald* and *Plover* (two ships despatched by her Britannic Majesty's Government for Sir John's relief) just as they were sailing from Kotzebue Sound. The yacht kept company with them for some days, and went with the boats despatched from her Majesty's ship *Plover* round Point Barrow, and rendered great assistance and afforded much kindness to the boat expedition to the Mackenzie river. On two occasions the yacht was nearly being lost. The *Nancy Dawson* sailed south in company with H.M. ship *Herald*, and passing through the Aleutian Group, arrived at Mazatlan on the 13th November. On the passage Mr. Shedden was extremely ill; and, three days after his arrival at Mazatlan, in spite of the assistance rendered him by the medical naval officer present, died in about the 28th year of his age. His funeral was attended, with great regret and respect, by most of the naval officers at Mazatlan. Mr. Shedden was in possession of a large fortune, and had great expectations. His yacht will return to England in charge of one of the officers of her Majesty's ship *Herald*.

DR. CLANNY.

WILLIAM REID CLANNY, M.D., a distinguished physician, was a native of the county Down, Ireland, and received his education at the Medical Schools, Edinburgh, where he graduated. He commenced his career as an assistant-surgeon in the Royal navy, and served at the battle of Copenhagen. He subsequently resided at Bishop Wrentham, in the county of Durham, where he practised with success in his profession for upwards of forty-five years.

Dr. Clanny was a member of several learned and scientific institutions, and Physician Extraordinary to the late Duke of Sussex. Dr. Clanny's scientific talent and humane feelings were early enlisted in the cause of preventing accidents in coal-mines. In the year 1813 he constructed a lamp, which was the first attempt made that was calculated to allow the light to burn safely in an explosive atmosphere. This invention he had the courage himself to test in a coal-mine containing upwards of one hundred acres of explosive air. In reward, the Society of Arts in London gave him their gold and silver medals. This first lamp, from its cumbersome form, never came into general use; but Dr. Clanny persevered, and eventually so perfected the lamp, that it became the most complete of its kind, whether as to safety, brilliancy of light, or portability of form. A few friends, headed by the Marquis of Londonderry, the largest coal-owner in the north of England, aware of these facts, lately presented the Doctor with a piece of plate, for his eminent services in bringing into effective use this great discovery. Dr. Clanny died on the 10th inst., at his residence, Bishop Wrentham, aged 73, much and deservedly regretted.

EMILY SANDFORD.—By a letter received from Port Phillip, dated October 1, 1849, we are informed that this unfortunate female met with a sad misfortune by the loss of her brother, a few days after their arrival in the *Casper* emigrant-ship, in Port Adelaide harbour. The brother, it will be remembered, volunteered to accompany his sister and child as a protector. By some means, in attempting to gain the shore from the ship, he fell into the water, and, in spite of all exertions to save his life, he sank, and met with a watery grave. The young man was twenty-two years of age.

ANTICIPATED REPEAL OF THE WINDOW-TAX.

ALTHOUGH not in the habit of laying before our readers lengthened reports of the proceedings of the Associations for promotion of the Arts and Sciences, which are labouring powerfully on all sides, yet the conviction that the period has arrived at which the Government finds itself prepared to fulfil one of its most obvious duties, at the same time one of the most earnest desires of the people, leads us to mention the proceedings of the meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects, on the 21st inst., which was attended by the Earl de Grey, President, who came from Yorkshire for the purpose, by Messrs. Sydney Smirke, Chadwick, Colquhoun, Dr. Arnott, Sir James Clarke, Capt. Buller, R.N., Gen. Sir C. Pasley, and more than the usual number of professional members. The subject of consideration, "Dwellings for the Industrial Classes," was ably treated by Mr. Roberts, the Hon. Architect of the Society for the Improvement of the Dwellings of the Poor, yet was too technical for these pages. His strictures on the want of sufficient light in the various model designs of the societies of agriculture, &c., were received with the greatest enthusiasm, and were clearly the reflex of the sentiments of the assembled gentlemen, who were evidently deeply interested in the subject, and whose remarks, with some additions of our own, we subjoin.

Taking up the course of popular feeling since the year 1843, it appears that little or nothing has been done by Government to assist the views of those who then expressed the opinions of the public. In April of that year, Mr. Goulburn (then Chancellor of the Exchequer) was told by Dr. Southwood Smith that light and air were as essential to a healthful condition of animal life, as food. (This great fact in physiology cannot be too strongly impressed on every person in this country.) Mr. Toynbee, a member of the same deputation, added, that he had often succeeded in hastening the cure, and preventing the spread, of further disease, among the families which he visited, by simply introducing in their rooms ventilators of perforated zinc plates. The upper part of the window was the proper place for such ventilators; but he had often found windows stopped up, to avoid the window-tax; and the landlord usually objected to making any new opening in the walls, lest his assessment should be raised. Mr. Hickson showed that Lord Althorp, who was Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1834, had promised that, although he would not part with the window duties, he would endeavour to mitigate some of the evils which they had occasioned, and accordingly passed the act 4 and 5 William IV., c. 54, which allowed new windows to be opened free of duty; but that this act proved nugatory, from the decision that no person had been *duly assessed* on the 5th of April, 1835.

Most persons are aware that the smallest four and six-roomed houses require for their occupation in health, to say nothing of comfort, at least eight and eleven windows respectively; viz. *one to each room*, one to the door, one to the closet, one to the pantry, and one to each floor of the staircase; but how few houses of these classes can be pointed out as possessing the requisite number! Blame can hardly be imputed to the builder, for the tenant would stop them up, as we see is done daily, to save what every ratepayer feels is the most injudiciously imposed of all taxes; for this seems to be the present state of the law—a circular aperture in a direct line seven inches wide, protected by an iron grating, the interstices of which shall not exceed one-quarter of an inch in width, is not chargeable in Liverpool (through a provision in the local act, 7 and 8 Vic., c. 11), but is so everywhere else in England; and it is not very apparent why Liverpool should be so favoured.

The amount to which the Workmen's Lodgings in St. Pancras would be subject is £152 16s. per annum; and a serious drawback on the net rental of these establishments.

Nothing need be said here of the monstrous folly of charging 20 windows at the rate of 6s. 3d., and 180 at 5s. 6d.; or of a system of taxation under which houses in mean neighbourhoods, with 14 to 35 windows, at rentals from £25 to £70 per annum, pay from 10 to 27 per cent on their rentals to this rate; while, in more fashionable localities, houses and clubs, with windows from 90 to 280 in number, assessed at from £700 to £2600 a year, pay only at the rate of from 2 to 4 per cent on those rentals.

Sir Robert Peel's authority may be taken for assuming the number of houses in Great Britain, in 1845, to be 3,500,000, and only the half million chargeable with window duty. No evidence can be stronger than this fact, of the immense number of houses which have been rendered *unfit for habitation* by the operation of the window tax, which is a tax on ingenuity, on health, and on morality. Witness those lofts and cellars, *without any light at all*, in which human beings, at the rate of one penny each per night, are allowed to crowd together till there is not even standing-room in those pits of perdition for new-comers.

If, as is understood, the Government wants information to enable it to relinquish the window duty, the advantages which are to be gained, beyond morality and health, are an increase of employment directly to the glass manufacturer, to the joiner, the smith, and the upholsterer, and to the building trade generally indirectly; and this should be impressed, as forcibly as possible, by every deputation which is sent to the Treasury. It is fair to calculate that the repeal of this tax will cause—in opening ventilators alone, to say nothing of new windows—an immediate expenditure of not less than three-quarters of a million of money.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON.—We have correspondence from Malta to the 12th of January. Latest accounts from the fleet left it under the orders of Sir W. Parker, Bart., G.C.B., lying at the island of Mosconini. The gallant admiral was about to quit, in a day or two, for Salamis Bay. A melancholy and fatal accident has happened to Lieut. H. W. Dawson, of the *Odin* steam-frigate, late of the *Thetis*. He had been out shooting, and on returning had incautiously placed a loaded gun between his legs, when accidentally touching the trigger the gun was discharged, and the contents were lodged in his heart, and he almost immediately expired.

A NEW SCREW STEAM CORVETTE.—The Admiralty have ordered Mr. Mare, of Blackwall, to construct for her Majesty's service a new screw corvette of 1300 tons, to be named the *Highflyer*. She is to be built of wood, and is to have engines of 240-horse power.

A NEW DESCRIPTION OF STEAM-VESSEL.—During last week great excitement prevailed at Marseilles by the arrival in that port of an entirely new description of steamer, and which, if successful, will cause a complete revolution in the present plans of building steam-vessels. The vessel is named the *Port de Marseilles*, and was built by M. Lieutenant. It has not the slightest appearance of masts or funnel; in fact, there is nothing to show whether she be propelled by wind, or steam, or oar. She glides through the water as if propelled by some invisible agency. The propelling power is by a simple lever of sufficient power.

DREADFUL WRECK AND LOSS OF LIFE.—A loss was made known on Wednesday at the War-office and Lloyd's, which created a deep sensation throughout those establishments. The calamity befell the *Richard Dart*, transport, Captain Porter, commander, which struck on a desolate reef of rocks in the Indian Ocean, while on her passage to New Zealand. The *Richard Dart* had on board a detachment of Sappers and Miners, with various articles of merchandise. The ship's company and passengers consisted of a crew of 10 or 15 men, 28 of the Royal Sappers and Miners, commanded by Lieutenant Liddel, Dr. and Mrs. Fitton, a child, Dr. Gale, Mr. Kelly, four women (wives of the soldiers), and nine children. After the ship struck, the next sea drove her over the reef. The rollers were terrifically high, and carried in the stern cabin windows, at the same time filling the boats and sweeping 47 of the passengers and crew into eternity. The survivors, after 42 days of intense suffering, at length fell in with some explorers on the island, in the service of Mr. Geary, of Cape Town, who generously shared their stock of food with them. They arrived at Table Bay on the 10th of November, when every attention was paid to their wants. Their names are—Mr. Samuel Potter, commander; John Mills, chief mate; Edward Pirnie, John Campbell, Richard Collins, Thomas Jenkins, and William Jones, seamen; James Read, Thomas Inglis, and Owen Deviney, sappers and miners. The petty officers who went out with the detachment, and who are lost, were Sergeant-major Sutton and Corporal Bartholomew Griffiths. They had their wives and families on board.

FROM "THE STANDARD" OF TUESDAY, JAN. 22.—The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of Saturday presents a beautiful sketch of the monument in the course of being erected in the town of Mansfield to the memory of the lamented Lord George Bentinck. The sketch is, indeed, like all the wood-cutting of the journal in which it appears, beautifully executed; and as that journal is before us, let us, in the discharge of a common debt, bear testimony to the good spirit in which it is conducted as well as to the excellence of its display of art. The number which contains the Bentinck Testimonial furnishes a view of the rising Protestant Church of Alexandria, and a picture of the good Queen Adelaide's Church at Malta: these are things to make an Englishman's bosom swell. We have a church in the Holy City, long since represented, by the way, in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS; another in Alexandria rising, and a church in Malta. Scarcely less interesting is the sketch and notice of the Greek church lately opened in London-wall, which will be found in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 12th. A church erected on the once, to Greeks, unknown soil of Britain, by the descendants of those Athenians to whom, 1800 years ago, was preached "the unknown God," for whose worship this temple is raised. We did not intend to say so much of our ornamental and ornamented contemporary, but we have almost without design been led, by a grateful sense of its usefulness, to say so much of one of the "public instructors," whose teaching is most faultless, and certainly not calculated to be least effectual.

What will a child learn earlier than a song?

Pope asks. We answer, a picture. Viewed in this light, such a journal as that of which we speak is a great public benefaction. Wherever it goes, it must do good—more good as it professes less. It is an attractive school for the young—aye, and for the old too.

Ut pueris olim dant crustula blandi,
Doctores.

It is delightful to see the arts so well employed.

Early on Sunday morning a policeman was passing St. Hilda's Church, South Shields, and discovered a staircase to be on fire. An engine was brought, and the flames were drowned. Another half-hour, and the interior would have been wholly on fire. As it was, damage to the extent of £200 was inflicted, and some weeks must elapse before divine worship can be resumed. The building was insured to the amount of £7000. A stove in a room near the vestry caused the fire.

CONDITION OF IRELAND.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE NEW POOR-LAW.

(Continued from page 35.)

The law, which many of the priests and people sought to make "as expensive as possible" to the landlords, fell heavily on them. A proposition, made in the progress of the bill, to subject mortgages to the rate, was of course scouted; and thus the landlord had to pay the half rate on the whole of his rental, while the larger part of that, in many cases, went to the mortgagee. The authors of the bill looked to the landowners for the improvement of the land, but the measure crippled their resources. Double production was needed: the law diminished production; and the owners, from the blindness of avarice, and the haste with which they carried out the evictions, helped to injure themselves. But the law incited them to do wrong, and took away the means by which they might have repaired some of the damage. Thus it did mischief to the landowner as well as the occupier. What good could it do—as it diminished the quantities of food—to those who were neither owners nor occupiers?

However industrious and energetic the Irish may be when removed from the incessant control, dictation, and restraint they are subject to in Ireland, there is abundant testimony to show that at home they have no superfluous energy and industry. The condition of their country is the unanswerable proof. Writing about 1725, Swift describes the native Irish as giving themselves wholly up to idleness, nastiness, and thieving. "Even farmers," he says, "who pay great rents, live in filth and nastiness upon buttermilk and potatoes, without a shoe or stocking to their feet, or a house so convenient as an English hogsty." It is the usual practice," he says, "of an Irish tenant, rather than want land, to offer more for a farm than he knows he can ever be able to pay, and in that case he grows desperate and pays nothing at all." Bishop Berkeley, writing in 1749, said, "The house of an Irish peasant is the cave of poverty. Their fields and gardens are a lively counterpart of Solomon's description in the Proverbs. 'I went,' said that wise King, 'by the field of the slothful and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding, and lo! it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down.' You often meet whole families in a drove without clothes to cover or bread to feed them, both of which might be easily procured by moderate labour." The negroes in our plantations have a saying, that if negro was not negro, Irishman would be negro. The very savages of America are better clad and better lodged than the Irish cottagers throughout the fine fertile counties of Limerick and Tipperary." So he asks in his "Querist," "Whether the bulk of our Irish natives are not kept from thriving by that cynical content in dirt and beggary which they possess to a degree beyond any other people in Christendom." Coming down to our own times, Captain Kennedy, in his reports and letters from Kilmish, published by the House of Commons, describes both landlords and tenants as unfit for energetic exertion. "The peasant's life was passed in planting his potatoes in spring, digging them up in autumn, and dozing through the winter over the turf fire which cost him nothing." The instant a misfortune fell upon him he was destitute and helpless. "Again," he says, writing on April 6, 1846, "improvident, ignorant, thriftless parents, scarcely human in habits and intelligence only, present themselves with nine or ten skeleton children when they themselves can no longer support the pangs of hunger, and their children are beyond recovery.... Hundreds of instances occur where an acre of land worth 15s. is let for £3.... In default of payment, the occupiers are bound to give 140s. labour during spring and harvest, which, at 8d. a day, amounts to £4 13s. 4d.... 100 or 120 days' labour is given for a cabin worth 7s. 6d. a year.... The half-witted occupiers," he says on April 13, 1848, "are too often deluded by the specious promises of under-bailiffs, and induced to throw down their own cabin for a paltry consideration of a few shillings, and an assurance of out-door relief."

I might quote much more testimony to the same effect, but this will satisfy every candid mind that the condition of the Irish has been for a long period similar to their present condition. They are thriftless and improvident beyond example. In their own country, at least, they have long been deficient in energy to help themselves. The Poor-law, by pretending to provide for them, justified and promoted their indolence and improvidence. Between them, too, and the landlords, there was an hereditary feud; and when they were told they were to be maintained at the expense of the landlords, they had the strongest motives to indulge in laziness. The law pandered to all their hereditary vices; it declared them entitled to be maintained at the expense of those whom they regarded as oppressors. Like the others, they did not know that the law would ruin the occupiers, or their own people, as well as the foreign and Protestant landlord. They thought only of its letter, and hastened to indulge in laziness at the landlord's expense. It became popular to sneer at industry. The law diminished the motives for that essential virtue, while it ruined the little occupiers, and impoverished the landlords. For eight years it had been in force before the potato rot came, which only made manifest its terrible effects on the possessions, habits, and minds of the people. The law, replete, as I have very briefly endeavoured to point out, with the most disastrous effects, was advocated with the very best intentions by leaders of all parties. Sir Robert Peel described it as demanded by public opinion. We are, however, well aware that universal approval is no index to the effects of a law. Most certainly it did not elevate the Irish. It did not save a single life nor solace a single misery. It served only a few officials. It added amazingly to the number of the destitute, and it helped to degrade the people almost past the hope of recovery.

All these and many similar effects resulted from the Poor-law of 1838; and no words can characterise the fright-begotten, principle-forgetting law, to extend out-door relief to the Irish, passed by the present Ministry in 1847. I believe all reflecting politicians who found their science on principle, in preference to passion—and all isolated and single present facts are interpreted by us with passion, and therefore partake of its character—condemned the mode in which the Ministry dealt with the calamity of 1846. They at once induced the people to give up the cultivation of the soil, and so increased the mass of destitution that nothing appeared feasible to its terrified authors, except to substitute for their misplaced charity, out-door relief. The law of 1847 was only the extension of the law of 1838; but its effects have been more destructive of life than the worst pestilence we read of in history. It is well characterised by the statement, "that the peasantry will pull down their own cabins for an assurance of out-door relief." We are told, in more than one union, that the majority of the applicants are "the holders of small farms, which they relinquish to obtain relief." The law substituted dependent pauperism for honest industry, and made it the actual rule of conduct in the greater part of Ireland. If it be criminal to ordain and encourage vice, then is the British legislature the most criminal body in existence.

Its imbecility, indeed, equals its criminality. It is impossible to carry the law into execution. In several instances it has been of necessity suspended; in several others the Government has carried out the law by grants of public money; and in several unions at this moment the rates cannot be collected, and relief is refused for want of means to give it. Should it be said that the recent seasons are entirely exceptional, I might dispute the statement; but I can safely allege that an enactment which is fit only for fair weather may be caprice—a spirit of good temper—a little misplaced benevolence—but is not a law. At this time Kilmish and several other unions are bankrupt. In 1848, twenty-one unions expended in all, under the direction of the law, £508,829, and could collect only £198,556: the Government and the British Association supplied the remainder. According to a Parliamentary paper, the estimated demand on those twenty-one unions for 1849 was £568,829, and the utmost rate which could be collected was not expected to produce more than £273,481. Without Government or charitable aid, the law would be a nullity. In the union of Milford, Donegal, out of a population of 38,108 persons, only 779 men and 287 women were employed—about one in thirty-eight. No poor-rate levied on the industry and property of that union could possibly support the population. Similar facts are true of every part of Ireland, and the law would be only an imbecile farce if it were not more terribly ruinous than it is ridiculous.

I should now say a few words on the probable means of helping the Irish; but the length of this communication, the many suggestions that are before the public, and the excellent recommendations of Mr. Bright, command me to stop. From the conspicuous failure of the Poor-Law, which had a benevolent origin, and was almost universally approved of, I read the responsibility of helping forward the mighty mischief—the ruin of a people—by an injudicious recommendation. I must avoid adding to the confusion that already exists, by refusing to increase the many nostrums by which it is expected Ireland may yet be redeemed. One remark only will I make.

Nearly all the circumstances of which Mr. Bright justly complains—"entails," "primogeniture," "heavy stamps and difficulties in disposing of land," "insecurity for tenants," "imperfect representation of the people," an "incongruous Church establishment"—exist, or did recently exist, in Great Britain, so far as the enactments in the statute-book are concerned, just as they exist in Ireland. In spite of them, however, and not in consequence of any legislation, the English have worked out their own advancement. For years past, instead of taking the law from the Legislature, they have in fact imposed the law on it. The Legislature has only given a technical form and dress to the will of the people. It is far less the law, therefore, than the difference in energy and knowledge, which causes the mighty difference in prosperity between Great Britain and Ireland. Consulting history, and in particular the economical history of our own country during the last century, I cannot find any example of national prosperity, and the increase of national wealth, produced directly by the acts of the Legislature. On the contrary, I see the rise of our chief manufactures, the improvement of our agriculture, the progress of knowledge, and the rapid march of invention, have all ensued in spite of its acts, which, manifested as exorbitant Customs and Excise duties, Stamp duties, and Corn-Laws, have one and all been impediments to the national progress. Our immediate improvement, and our great hope for the future, are based on having recently got rid of a law. I therefore cannot expect, like Mr. Bright, any improvement for Ireland from the hand of the Legislature. Laws are of inconceivably small importance compared to the spirit of the people who have to administer and submit to them. The improvement of Ireland, therefore, must come from the Irish themselves; and the best we can expect from legislation is, that it should, as far as it can, and as rapidly as convenient, undo the work it has done in Ireland.

The new sea pier at Moville, in the county of Derry, has been completed, and the works are stated to have given complete satisfaction upon the official inspection. The entire length of the pier is 408 feet; breadth, 40 feet; 10 feet below low water at its head, 9 feet to the extent of 250 feet inward, and thence gradually decreasing to the depth of 7 feet. The stones used in its erection vary from two to five tons, and were procured in the neighbourhood.

A vessel of large size and tonnage which has just arrived in the London Docks from Bombay, has brought the large quantity of 3136 bales of cotton of East India produce.



DESTRUCTION OF SHAP-NG-TSAI'S PIRATICAL FLEET, BY THE BRITISH, IN THE GULF OF TONQUIN.

TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF A CHINESE PIRATICAL FLEET, IN THE GULF OF TONQUIN.

By the Overland Mail, which arrived on Sunday last, intelligence has been received of the total destruction of Shap-ng-tsai's Piratical fleet of fifty-eight junks, in the Gulf of Tonquin, lat. 20.39.17 N, long. 106.52 E.

We have been favoured by Dr. Startin, medical officer of the *Phlegethon*, who was a participator and eye-witness of the action, with the accompanying Sketch of the engaging forces, at the moment of their opening fire, when the Pirate Commander's ship exploded, from a shell thrown by the *Phlegethon*. We gather from an interesting account, written by Dr. Startin, that the information which had been obtained by the *Phlegethon*, on her second cruise to the westward, of the rapine and murder committed by Shap-ng-tsai on the south-west coast of China, and of his having escaped to Hainan, determined the naval Commander-in-Chief to dispatch a third expedition. After a persevering search, Captain Hay, in command, succeeded in obtaining, through the valuable assistance of Mr. Caldwell, the interpreter, such information as led to complete success. Dr. Startin's narrative continues:—

The expedition, consisting of her Majesty's brig *Columbine*, her Majesty's steamer *Fury*, and the Hon. Company's steamer *Phlegethon*, left Hong-Kong on the morning of the 8th of October, the *Fury* towing the *Phlegethon* to save fuel, and the *Columbine* sailing with a fair breeze. After searching and inquiring along the coast and adjacent islands, the vessels anchored at Nowchow, on the east coast of Lew-chew-foo, on the 12th, when intelligence was gained from the Mandarin that the pirates, having some idea that the English ships would be again sent in pursuit, had left Hainan—that they had captured five trading junks laden with produce, and totally destroyed the town and villages—and had left only a short time before for Welchow, a barren island to the north-east of the Gulf of Tonquin. Having procured pilots for the shoals, abounding in that part, and for the "junk passage," Capt. Hay determined to follow.

On the morning of the 13th, the *Fury* took both the *Columbine* and the *Phlegethon* in tow, much to the astonishment of the natives, and proceeded to Hoihow, on the island of Hainan, after examining two suspicious junks anchored off the harbour. At 4 p.m. the fort on shore saluted the ships, which was returned by the *Fury*; and Captains Hay and Willcox, with Mr. Caldwell and others, paid a visit of ceremony to the Governor-General of Hainan. They were received with great state, and most graciously entertained. The Governor was delighted with the object of the expedition, more especially as Shap-ng-tsai had made a vigorous attack on the city, being with great difficulty repelled, the approaches by water being too shallow for his large junks. He appointed a Mandarin with

eight well-armed and fast-sailing junks to act as allies. The expedition started with the junks in company, the Mandarin being on board the *Fury*; and arrived at Wie-chow, on the evening of the 15th, from whence the pirates had sailed for Chuck-shan, to which we followed them, the *Fury* towing both vessels, and arrived at noon. The *Phlegethon* searched for a passage into the harbour, without success.

The following day an armed boat was despatched to the village for intelligence, and to examine some junks reported inside. At 2 p.m. the boat returned with information that Shap-ng-tsai had sailed westward to a place called Hoonong, near Tonquin, in consequence of the villagers refusing to cut grass which he required to burn and clean the bottoms of his junks, in revenge for which he killed many of the inhabitants.

At daylight, the following morning, Capt. Hay proceeded under sail through the islands, calling at Goo-to-shan, and examining the junks. At five p.m. he sighted a large suspicious junk trying to escape among the islands, when the *Columbine* and *Fury* opened fire, but were out of range; the water shoaling, the *Phlegethon* was, in consequence, ordered in pursuit, when the junk was driven on shore. Her crew, thirty in number, landed in great disorder, when she was boarded, and found to contain five large guns, stink-pots, and thirty-one spears; the whole of which, with the junk herself, the *Phlegethon's* boats fired and destroyed. The following morning, at daylight, Capt. Hay sailed for the S.S.W., and arrived at noon off Hoonong, but no junks were in sight. Captains Hay and Willcox, with the Mandarin, &c., proceeded in the *Phlegethon* through the islands to the town, where information was obtained that the pirate fleet had been seen only two days before at Fa-fung, which place they had vowed to destroy after making an attack on another place, called Chuck-shan; and that three of their junks had been daily reconnoitring, but had not been observed on that day. Upon examining with a glass from the hills, nothing could be seen but a most fertile and beautiful country.

It was now resolved to return next morning; but, to satisfy the Hainan Mandarin, Captain Hay consented to look in at Chuck-shan, only ten miles westward. At daylight, on the 20th, suddenly, at 6h. 30m. A.M., numerous junks, appearing at first like a forest of trees, hove in sight to windward, over a point of low land. The Mandarin and villagers at once declared them to be Shap-ng-tsai's fleet endeavouring to escape to seaward. The channel being difficult to find, and very narrow, the *Phlegethon* proceeded ahead, showing soundings to the *Fury*, with the *Columbine* in tow.

After some difficulty, at three p.m., two boats came out from Fa-fung, with pilots to lead the vessels in, saying that Shap-ng-tsai was himself there with 60 junks. Immediately on the pirates observing the approach of the steamers, many made sail up the river. Eleven of the largest ones, with springs on their cables, stood their ground, bringing their broadsides to bear and firing guns of defiance, also firing at the escaping junks to compel them to fight. At 4.50 p.m.

the *Fury* opened fire at long range: the first few shots fell short, but must have given the desperadoes a significant warning of their approaching fate. The *Phlegethon* continued to lead, showing soundings, and when within about 1800 yards commenced firing both shell and rockets. The third or fourth discharge fired Shap-ng-tsai's own junk, which was a large two-decker, mounting at least 40 guns, and, as the explosion showed, having a well-stored magazine: this explosion threw the whole piratical fleet into confusion, and set fire to the neighbouring junks.

The *Columbine* having now got within range, cast off and anchored, when the *Fury* rapidly advanced, discharging a perfect volcano of shot and shell. Up to this, the pirates had continued firing broadside after broadside; but finding their guns ranging immensely short, they made a last effort to escape on shore in boats. Perceiving this, the *Fury* and *Phlegethon* continued the pursuit, leaving the *Columbine's* boats to burn, destroy, and capture those left behind: the slaughter amongst the boats was fearful, and had not darkness intervened, the whole fleet must have been destroyed that night; the river having no outlet but that at which the English entered, and armed villagers on all sides mustering in thousands to cut them up on landing. Nearly all ran their junks on shore, under cover of the darkness, and deserted them, to be destroyed by fire by the boats of the expedition; and before ten o'clock, a dark night was completely illumined by the simultaneous burning of twenty-one large junks, some of them with captured cargoes of oil on board. The explosions were innumerable, and the boats much endangered by shotted guns, which were left loaded to the muzzle in most of the junks. Shap-ng-tsai, being aware of the English power, was one of the first to decamp in a small sailing-boat with forty men, and it is supposed fell a victim to the grape and canister of the steamers.

The attack of the second day (the 21st) must be briefly described, though it was that on which many displayed the greatest courage, and fought the hardest. The *Fury*, at daylight, continued the pursuit up the river as far as depth of water would allow, when her paddlebox-boats had to continue the chase of twelve large junks, some of which fought with great desperation, and well returned the boats' fire for an hour and a half, when, the boats' ammunition being nearly expended, they were compelled to board, and eventually succeeded in destroying nine of them. On board one of the largest the captain was found dead, at the rear of a gun loaded to the muzzle, and depressed directly to the boat, with the match burning in his hand. In the meantime, the *Phlegethon*, with Captain Hay on board, took another direction, knowing that many junks remained concealed in narrow creeks behind the hills, and where the larger steamer could not approach. This plan proved successful to the destruction of three other of the Pirate's finest vessels, a smaller one escaping outside. The boats of the *Columbine* had not been inactive, having destroyed many.

Only five of the fleet now remained undestroyed, two of which were pursued by the *Phlegethon*, and burnt; the remaining three, it was hoped, would fall into the hands of the Cochinchinese. Report says that, before leaving his vessel, Shap-ng-tsai tied the Mandarin sent down by Seu with overtures to his mainmast, as a target for the guns which he believed his treacherous friend had brought into his last haunt—from which, by the perseverance and skill, both of those who planned and conducted the expedition, amidst many difficulties and dangers, in entirely unknown waters, he had been completely routed; and the remainder of his fleet, consisting of nearly sixty vessels—most of them of unusually large size and powerful armament—with upwards of 1000 guns and more than 2500 men, has been utterly destroyed, and this without a single casualty to the expedition. Lasting gratitude is due from the Chinese nation for this display of British power in their behalf. Shap-ng-tsai, if he still exists, is, as the natives along the coast say, rendered powerless, and without any resources; and the merchants and traders, whose occupations were all but at an end, will now be able to pursue them with redoubled vigour, carrying cargoes up and down the coast (as they themselves say) "asleep."

TRIAL OF THE RIOTERS AT TRINIDAD.

In our Journal of November 10, 1849, we gave an account (with an Illustration) of the destructive riots which took place at Trinidad on the 1st of October, which led to loss of life, and outrage on person and property. Before the dispatch of this intelligence from the island, several persons who were most conspicuous in the riot had been arrested, and committed to prison.

These and other prisoners have since been brought to trial; and when the mail received on the 20th inst. left Trinidad, there was some excitement prevailing in the island relative to these trials, which were proceeding. The evidence against the prisoners did not make it appear that there was any preconcert or plot to break the peace on the occasion of the disturbance; and the Jury, after two days' confinement, not being able to agree upon a verdict, were discharged. On the 21st of December, the Attorney-General summoned another Jury, which, it was expected, would convict the prisoners, who consisted of ten men (ignorant labourers) and four women, all Negroes. It was the general opinion in the island, that, if these helpless persons should be condemned, the year 1850 will not elapse without serious disturbances.

The accompanying Illustration is from a Sketch by Mr. Cazabon, a native artist of Trinidad. It shows the interior of the Court-House, on the 17th of December, during the trial. Upon the bench are seated Chief Justice Knox and Justice Bowen; below them are the Registrar and the Marshal of the Court; in the witness-box is Mr. Guiseppi: the barrister standing is Mr. Anderson, counsel for the defence; and to his right are the Hon. Henry Fuller, Advocate and member of Council; and next to him, Mr. Celestine Surerra, the chief prisoner.

We are happy to add, that, by letters and papers to the 21st of December, the weather was favourable for vegetation, and to all appearance the dry season had set in; the canes looked well, labour was abundant and cheap, so that, if the weather held up, an unusually large crop was expected. Trade was somewhat more lively under the smile of the coming Christmas.

PURCHASE OF PRIOR PARK.—Many rumours having for some time past been current in Bath with respect to the Roman Catholic College of Prior Park, the question is now decided; inasmuch as Alexander Raphael, Esq., of Turbinton-place, M.P. for St. Alban's, has purchased the above property, with all its appurtenances, for £30,000; and has given an extended lease of it to the same parties at a rental of £3 per cent. per annum. The property will be conveyed to them on their payment of the above sum, together with the rents due thereon. But in failure of the strict performance of the several stipulations and covenants expressed in the lease, their right to the repurchase of the property will be forfeited.

The sum of £200 has been subscribed for the erection of a memorial window in Chester Cathedral, in memory of the late G. E. Anson, Esq., treasurer of Prince Albert's household, and son of the Very Rev. the Dean of Chester.



TRIAL OF THE RIOTERS (OCT. 1) IN THE COURT-HOUSE, AT TRINIDAD.



ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIANS—YOUNG MEN.



ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIANS—OLD AND YOUNG MAN.

AUSTRALIA FELIX.

By a singular occurrence, we are enabled to present our readers with the accompanying Portraits of a group of the Aboriginal people of the interior of Australia, most appropriately called by Sir Thomas Mitchell *Australia Felix*, now better known as Port Phillip.

It appears that Mr. Kilburn, the brother of the eminent Photographer, of Regent-street, has long resided in Australia, and felt anxious to portray the curious race of Aborigines by aid of the Daguerreotype. Mr. Kilburn had much difficulty in prevailing upon any individual to sit, from some superstitious fear that they possess, imagining that it would subject them to some misfortune. He lost no opportunity in persuading them, by small bribes, when they wandered into Port Phillip, usually for the purpose of begging; but, in return, they appeared always willing to render any assistance in chopping wood, &c. At length, Mr. Kilburn succeeded; and the result is here presented to the reader.

First, are two young men, the one holding his waddy, or club of defence; the other, the characteristic boomerang: the latter is also decorated with a short spear thrust through the cartilage of the nose. Accompanying are Portraits of an Old and Young Man. Next is "Lubra," a young woman, with her hunting spear. They tattoo themselves only to a limited extent, as shown in the Illustration. They wear sheep-skins, with the wool next the skin, or the reverse, according to the season.

Dr. J. B. Clutterbuck, in a very interesting account of "Port Phillip in 1849" (just published), tells us that—

"Our sable brethren are extremely dirty in their persons; their legs, arms, and other parts of the body are frequently covered with eruptions—partly from their inattention to ablution, partly from their custom of sleeping with a mongrel breed of dog, which is infected with the disease called the 'mange.' The native colour of their skin is dark brown; their faces are oval, noses flat, and upper lips very thick. The hair, unlike that of the African Negro, is straight and smooth, and worn daubed with a profusion of any unctuous substance which they can procure, and this often blended with red earth. A cockatoo feather is sometimes stuck at the side of the head, and the cartilage of the nose pierced, and a reed, about an inch in length, passed through it. A necklace, composed of short pieces of reed united, encircles their neck; and around their person is carelessly thrown an opossum rug, on the skin of which are carefully depicted, by means of glass or stone, various devices, by no means inelegant in design, and somewhat resembling the arabesque. The Manchester calico-printers might derive some useful hints from the delineations of this simple people. The fur of this rug is worn next the skin, or otherwise, according to the season of the year. Their teeth are so even, perfect, and beautifully white, that, were they seen by the Cranbourn-alley dentists, their possession would be coveted. Young boys and girls go about without any clothing. Some of the tribes mutilate themselves, by allowing the two front teeth to be knocked out when they attain the condition of manhood. They are fond of puncturing, by means of sharp pieces of flint, different parts of their persons when young. These punctures cause inflammation and swelling, leaving ridges, resembling the form, shape, and size of a large leech. In stature they are usually diminutive, but tolerably well proportioned: their feet and hands are small, their legs straight, limbs finely rounded, and their deportment far more dignified than artificial tuition could impart.



LUBRA, A YOUNG AUSTRALIAN WOMAN.

We append a striking View of Melbourne, the capital of Port Phillip, copied by permission from a print after a picture by Mr. W. F. E. Liardet; dedicated to his Honor C. J. La Trobe, the Superintendent; and just published under the patronage of the Mayor, burgesses, merchants, and gentlemen settlers of the district. In the foreground of the picture are some specimens of the vegetation of the country; with a native wigwam, bundles of spears, and the aborigines practising with their hunting and war implements. The lofty point, commencing from the left of the picture, is Mount Macedon; next is Flag-staff Hill, to signalise arrivals in the Bay; towards the centre is the Episcopal Church; next, the New Prison and Supreme Court-House; and to the extreme right lies Collingwood, or the New Town, hidden by the trees. Upon the river (Yarra-Yarra, or Ever-flowing) are steamers and other vessels, which attest the commercial activity of the place.

We quote a portion of Dr. Clutterbuck's description of the city:—

"Some twelve years ago, the land on which a city now stands was a wilderness—a wilderness inhabited by innumerable tribes of savages; and where, also, the sportive kangaroo, emu, and wild dog appeared in such numbers as to oppose a barrier to the inroads of civilization. 'What a chance has taken place since that period! What has not been achieved in this once barbarous region by England's indomitable and noble spirit of enterprise! Perhaps, in no portion of the globe has so gigantic an effort at colonization been crowned with so signal and speedy a triumph as in the erection of Melbourne, with a population of at least 15,000 souls.

"Melbourne is prettily situated upon sloping banks, and overlooks, in many parts, the bay; fronting, on the north, the Yarra Yarra. On the western side there is an extensive swamp, or rather lake, it being usually covered in its whole extent with water, on the surface of which numerous flocks of ducks and other wild-fowl sport.

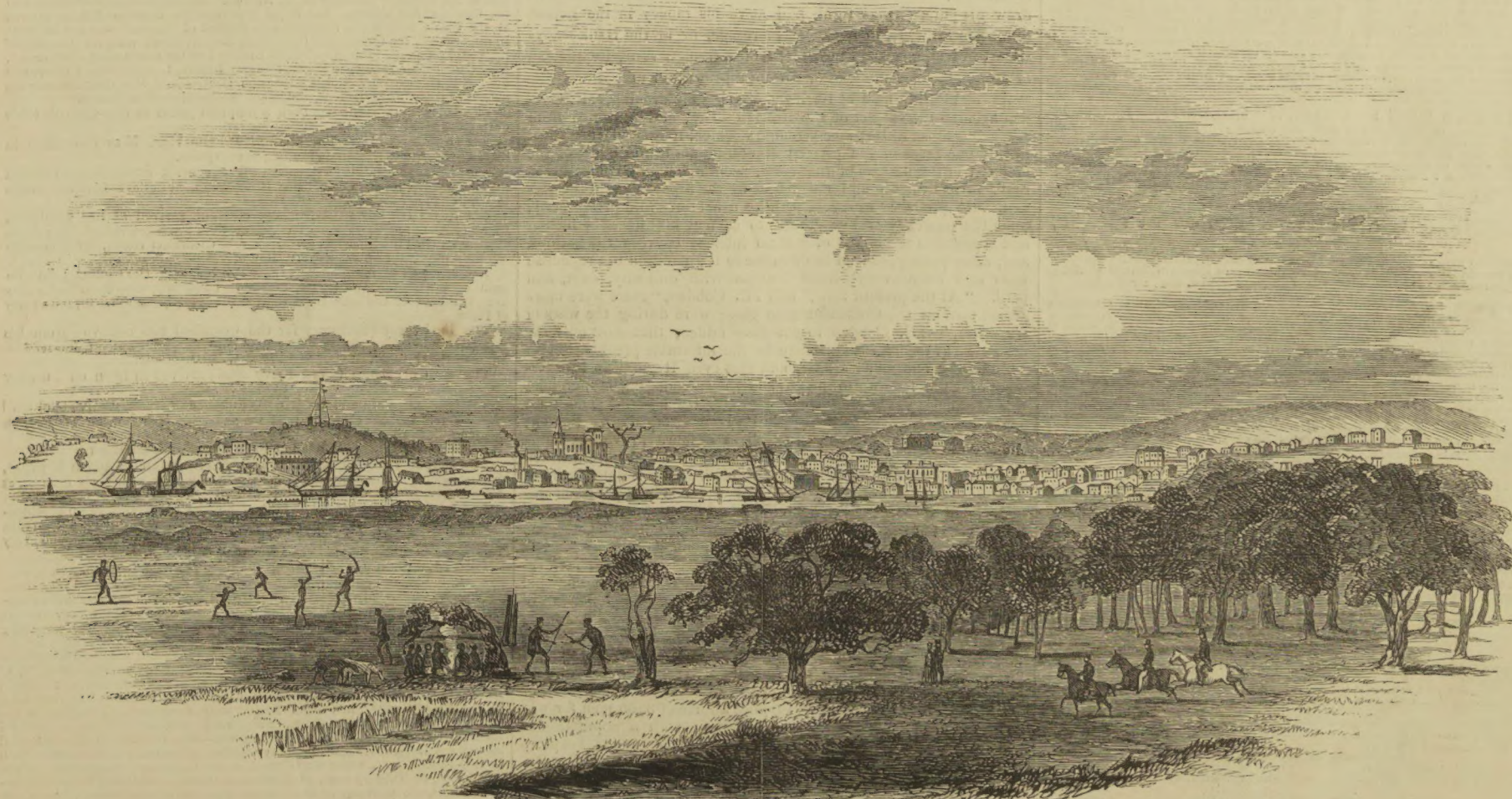
"Most of the modern houses are two stories in height, and built of brick; but these, with very few exceptions, are inconvenient and low, and ill adapted to the enjoyment of one of the chief comforts which persons inhabiting a hot climate should endeavour to provide, namely, free ventilation. The roofs of nearly all the houses are covered with shingles, some few with slate, and, in the bush, the majority with bark.

"Little architectural taste or design is displayed in the public buildings. The gaol, court-house, and Government offices are plain structures of stone.

"The principal streets are wide; and, since Melbourne has boasted its corporation, much has been effected by this body towards the formation of level, compact lines of road, and the metalling their surface.

"The city is supplied with tolerably pure water from the Yarra Yarra, a dam having been constructed below the wharf for the purpose of preventing the admixture of salt and brackish water.

"The wharf, composed of strong piles of wood well riveted and driven into the side of the bank of the basin, presents a bustling and lively scene. Here several schooners discharge their cargoes from Sydney, Hobarton, Launceston, Adelaide, and other ports. Cargoes are brought up from the bay in lighters. Three steamers play between Melbourne and Geelong daily; and one to and from Sydney and Launceston twice a week. Between the two capitals, Sydney and Melbourne, postal communication takes place in the same period. A very handsome bridge, built of blue stone, and faced and ornamented with white granite, is thrown over the Yarra. It consists of one arch, and equals the span of the largest arch of the new London-bridge. Altogether it is a fine specimen of architecture.



MELBOURNE, THE CAPITAL OF PORT PHILLIP.

APPROACHING MARRIAGES IN HIGH LIFE.—We are enabled to announce that the preliminaries are arranged for the marriage of the Lady Harriett Somers Cocks, second daughter of the Earl and Countess Somers, with Mr. W. Prosser, M.P.—We have also to announce the approaching marriage of Mr. Johnstone, eldest son of Sir J. S. B. Johnstone, Bart., and grandson of the late Archbishop of York, with Miss Mills, eldest daughter of Mr. Charles Mills, Camelford House.—The marriage of Lieut. the Hon. Philip Sydney, of the Royal Horse Guards, eldest son of Lord De Lisle, and grandson of the late King William the Fourth, and Miss Foulis, only daughter and heiress of the late Sir William Foulis, Bart., and Lady Foulis, will be solemnised towards the close of the ensuing month.—We understand the intended marriage of Lady Olivia Montagu, only daughter of the Duke of Manchester, with Lord Ossulston, M.P., eldest son of the Earl and Countess of Tankerville, will be solemnised, on Tuesday next, at Kimbolton Castle.—According to present arrangements, the marriage of Miss Bagot, daughter of the Bishop of Bath and Wells and Lady Harriett Bagot, and the Hon. G. T. Orlando Bridgeman, son of the Earl of Bradford, will take place in the course of next month.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

ENFRANCHISEMENT OF CHELSEA.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Chelsea was held on Wednesday evening, at the Commercial Hall, King's-road, to take into consideration the best means of procuring separate Parliamentary representation for the extensive district comprised within the united parishes of Kensington, Chelsea, Hammersmith, and Fulham. The meeting, which was exceedingly well attended, passed the following resolutions:—

That this meeting is of opinion that great injustice was done to Chelsea, Kensington, Fulham, and Hammersmith, at the period of passing the Reform Bill, inasmuch as the franchise was given to various boroughs throughout the kingdom inferior in population, wealth, and intelligence, whilst this important district was wholly omitted.

That the number of representatives to be returned to the House of Commons having been fixed by the Reform Act at 68, and that number having been reduced to 65 by the disfranchisement of Sudbury, this district is better entitled to supply that deficiency in the representation than any other place in the United Kingdom.

That a petition embodying the foregoing resolutions be signed by the chairman of this meeting, and presented to the House of Commons, and that Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., be requested to present the same.

PAROCHIAL WATER SUPPLY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the members of this association was held on Tuesday evening in the Vestry-room of St. Paul's Church, Covent-Garden, to receive the report of the committee appointed at St. Martin's on the 7th instant, and for the transaction of general business. The chair was taken by Mr. Moseley. The report stated that about fifteen parishes of the metropolis have already given in their adhesion to the principles of the association, and eight of the vestries have voted different sums for payment of expenses, &c., amounting in all to about £160. The present claims on the association are £63. J. Wyld, Esq., M.P. for Bodmin, offered to advance a sum of £500 to enable the committee to discharge all preliminary expenses, which was to be repaid when the funds of the association should be in a sufficiently prosperous condition, and on the terms that no member should be personally liable for the repayment of the amount. The committee recommended that Mr. Wyld's offer should be accepted with thanks, and that that gentleman should be appointed treasurer *pro tem.*, until application should be made to J. Masterman, Esq., M.P., and Baron Rothschild to become joint-treasurers of the association. The report concluded with recommending an active canvass of those parishes which have not yet joined the movement. It was stated that the principles which the association seeks to establish are, that the water supply of the metropolis should not be in the hands of joint-stock companies, and that it should not be subject to the principle of centralization by Government, as in the case of sewers, but should be under the control of the rate-payers of the different parishes. The report, after some discussion on Mr. Wyld's proposal, was received and adopted. Mr. Brown was appointed the secretary on a short term of engagement, Mr. Sidney Smith, to whom the office had been offered, having declined to accept it. It was referred to the committee to procure offices in the city for the transaction of the business of the association.

THE BALLAST-HEAVERS OF THE METROPOLIS.—On Tuesday, a meeting of the following gentlemen took place at the London Tavern:—Sir James Duke, Bart., M.P., in the chair; Mr. Pearson, M.P.; Mr. Peatress, Mr. Millard, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Dakin, Mr. John Wood, the Rev. Mr. Cattle, Mr. Mayhew, and Mr. Delane. The object of the meeting was to take into consideration the state of the ballast-heavers and lumpers employed on the Thames. Mr. Mayhew detailed at some length the distress which prevailed amongst the ballast-heavers and lumpers, in consequence of the objectionable manner in which they are at present paid for their laborious employment. Mr. Peatress entered into a statement of benefits derived by the coal-whippers from the act of Parliament passed for their protection, and which regulated the manner in which they were employed and paid. He drew a strong contrast between their former and their present condition. They had created a fund of their own, out of which they had established a school for their children and a benefit society; and, by a subscription of a penny per man per ship, they had formed another fund, which enabled them to grant pensions to the infirm members of their body. Nothing could be more gratifying than their clean and respectable appearance whenever they met together.—The following resolutions were subsequently agreed to unanimously:—

1. That the inquiries made by the *Morning Chronicle* into the state of Labour and the Poor having disclosed the great extent of misery and destitution which constantly prevail amongst the labouring classes, produced chiefly by the mode in which they are at present employed, and by the objectionable way in which their wages are paid, it is the opinion of this meeting that, without in the slightest degree interfering with the rights of employers, some measures should be taken to abolish the evils of the present system, and secure to the labourers the regular payment of their wages.

2. That it appears that the ballast-getters in the employ of the Corporation of the Trinity House are well paid, but that the ballast-heavers employed to shovel the ballast out of the Trinity House lighters are sufferers from the objectionable system by which they are engaged and paid. That a sub-committee be appointed to communicate with the Corporation of the Trinity House, and to ascertain whether consistently with their regulations, the ballast-heavers cannot be placed under the control of the Trinity House in the same manner as the ballast-getters. That the committee be also authorised to communicate with Her Majesty's Government, and to adopt such other measures as may be most conducive to the attainment of the objects of the foregoing resolutions. The committee to consist of the gentlemen now present.

The thanks of the meeting were then unanimously voted to Sir James Duke for his kind and prompt attention to the objects of the meeting.

ROYAL NAVAL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—A quarterly meeting of this society took place on Monday, at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street; Sir Charles Adam, Governor of Greenwich Hospital, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, a statement of accounts was read, which showed that the expenses for the last year were £582 17s., leaving a balance in favour of the society of £902 13s. Considerable discussion took place relative to the item marked incidental expenses (£179), which it was urged was very large, and that some better classification in the accounts should be adopted. A list of the names of new subscribers was then read, and also the deaths; and it appeared that there had been 59 new subscribers, and 116 deaths. Still the amount of subscriptions had increased, for the amount they had gained by the new subscribers was £81, and the loss from the deaths was only £65. Particular attention was called to the claims of the daughter of Lieutenant Charles Mackenzie for admission to the Royal Naval Female School, they being founded on the services of her father, who, it might be observed, was not the only one (of a family strictly naval) who perished his life during the French revolutionary war, his brother also, Commander James Mackenzie, having been drowned in her Majesty's brig *Foxhound*, in the Atlantic, in 1809, on her passage home from Halifax; other members of the family having also been lost in the service. The secretary having read a series of correspondence from various parties, Sir John West was elected vice president, in room of Sir J. Hawkins Whitehead, Bart., deceased; and Captain Dickinson, Captain Clark, and Lieutenant Hale were appointed as a committee to examine memorials for the next year. After some formal business, strangers were ordered to withdraw, the remaining business being discussed with closed doors.

PROVIDENT CLERKS' MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE.—On Monday night the ninth annual meeting of the Provident Clerks' Association was held at the London Tavern; Mr. R. H. Jones in the chair. The report stated that a considerable increase had taken place during the past year, both in the number of policies taken out, and in the amount of assurances effected. In the last year, 565 policies were issued, for £115,865, the annual premiums upon which amount to £3242. There were 57 proposals for assurance declined, and 62 were deferred, withdrawn, and waiting for further information. The business of the association for 1849 had greatly exceeded that of any year since its formation; and there was an increase of 134 policies, for £30,755 over the prosperous year of 1848. The annual premiums payable in respect of policies in existence, together with the dividends on invested capital, now amount to £11,625. During the year 1849, the board purchased £5000 stock; and the total amount in the names of the trustees on the 31st December last was £20,000 Three-and-a-Half per Cent. The total amount of claims arising from 25 deaths, during the past year, was £3850. The mortality amongst the assured during the past year was augmented by four deaths, owing to cholera and diarrhoea. In the course of last year, a deputation from the board of management had visited Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, and Glasgow, on the subject of agencies. The deputations were most cordially received by the principals of many of the leading houses, and the business had since considerably increased. The accounts for the year exhibited receipts to the amount of £11,521 3s. 8d., and a balance of £4944 9s. 11d. in favour of the association. The Chairman congratulated the meeting on the progress made by the association during the past year. He said that they had received proposals to extend the society to Ireland; and he had himself gone to Dublin to make inquiries respecting the expediency of that step; but, from the conflicting statements that had been made to him, he came to the opinion that it would not be desirable to do so. The report and balance-sheet were unanimously adopted, and a sum of £400 was awarded to the board of management, for the great attention bestowed by them to the interests of the society.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—The seventeenth annual meeting of this society was held at Exeter-hall on Tuesday evening; Mr. Harrison, the president, in the chair. From the report and accounts it appeared there had been nineteen concerts during the past year, a number only once equalled; viz. in 1844. The subscription list had considerably increased, in proof of which it was stated that while the amount received in 1848 had been the largest of any preceding year, and had exceeded that of 1847 by £100, the past year's subscription had exceeded that of 1848 by upwards of £150. This might be considered as partly proceeding from the satisfaction felt by the subscribers at the introduction, for the first time this season, of numbered sittings in the centre of the area retained the entire evening, similar to the stalls at the Philharmonic Society and the Opera. The gross receipts for 1849 had been £5225 10s. 1d., and the payments £5168 6s. 7d., allowing for the purchase of music for the use of the orchestra (which is now bought, instead of, as formerly, being only hired); it was stated that the past year's operations had realised a considerable profit. The assets of the society consisted of £1000 Consols; in addition to other property, of the value of at least £1000; besides the cash balance in the hands of the treasurer; every claim upon the society having been paid. The retiring members of the committee having been re-elected, the usual complimentary resolutions in reference to the labours of the committee and officers of the past year were unanimously passed, and Mr. Costa's indefatigable exertions in behalf of the institution were particularly noticed.

ST. KATHARINE'S DOCK COMPANY.—The half-yearly general meeting of the proprietors of the above company was held on Monday, at the Dock-house, Tower-hill. By the balance-sheet it appeared that the total receipts for the year ending Dec. 31 had been £316,377 0s. 2d., and the expenditure £127,601 12s. 1d.; payment of dividend, £102,325 16s. 10d.; leaving a balance in hand of £86,447 14s. 3d. On the motion of the chairman the report was adopted, and it was also agreed that the dividend for the year should be at the rate of 4 per cent., payable half-yearly at 2 per cent., free of income-tax. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the business of the meeting.

ROYAL JENNERTIAN AND LONDON VACCINE ESTABLISHMENT.—The annual meeting of the governors of this institution took place on Thursday last, at the London Tavern—D. W. Wire, Esq., in the chair. The report stated that, during the past year, the numbers vaccinated by this institution amounted to 7500, which was a very large increase over the preceding years. They had been applied to for a supply of vaccine from the Honourable East India Company, and by many of the foreign Governments. The Spanish Government liberally aided them by subscribing to their funds, and the medical board of Palma, in Majorca, also subscribed; still the actual amount they had received during the past year was only £332, leaving them still in debt £350. The report was adopted, and several formal resolutions passed, and the meeting separated, after a vote of thanks to the chairman.

NATIONAL CURRENCY REFORM ASSOCIATION.—The first public meeting was held on Wednesday night, at the London Coffee-house, for the purpose of promoting the objects which its members have in view. There was a very considerable attendance of parties interested in the question.—Mr. F. Bannock, President of the Association, took the chair, and in the course of a lengthened address explained the principles of the association, and replied to many of the objections urged against the issue of paper money by the Government under the sanction of Parliament. The association proposed to dispense with gold as an internal circulating medium, and leave it to its natural function of balancing foreign accounts. A money which could not be withdrawn from the country was wanted here. If distress arose from want of a circulating medium, or from a sudden contraction of it, it followed that a medium which would expand with our necessities would carry us over all difficulties. He impressed various other views upon the meeting of the impolicy of basing the circulation upon gold. A change must certainly take place; and it was the duty of Government to find a proper and an efficient substitute. This was no political agitation. It was free from sect or party. It desired the ascendancy of no class, but it desired the general progress of civilization and the advancement of the people. The association believed that their system of paper-money, whilst fostering trade, and pushing it to its utmost legitimate extent, would suppress or greatly diminish inordinate speculation. The chairman concluded by describing the success which the principles advocated by the association had met with in all parts of the country, and by expressing his belief that in a very few years they would be permanently successful. Mr. Duncan, the secretary, then detailed the principles of money advocated by the association, which are thus described in one of their publications:—

That the Crown, under the sanction of Parliament, should be empowered to create and issue Government paper money, of one pound and upwards, for the purposes of the State, limited to the amount of the annual taxation of the country, such money being declared legal tender. That our silver coins should be so adjusted as to express aliquot fractional parts of the Government pound. That in this money, gold, restricted to its natural character as a commodity, would rise and fall in price, in common with all other commodities, under the law of supply and demand. That joint-stock banks, and other banks of issue, giving adequate security to Government, should be empowered to issue their own notes, the circulation of which would expand or contract according to the requirements of commerce.

No resolutions were proposed, the purpose being to communicate information, rather than to call for any expression of opinion.

THE JOURNEMEN TAILORS AND THE SLOP SYSTEM.—A meeting of the journeymen tailors was held at the Mechanics' Institution, Southampton-buildings, on Thursday evening, Mr. Luke James Hansard in the chair, when a series of resolutions was passed, in order to put an end to the slop system and the middlemen, to the effect that a "Tailors' Working Association" should be formed on the co-operative system; other trades being invited to aid the tailors in their efforts.

FEMALE EMIGRATION.—The sub-committee appointed to consider the most advisable mode of carrying out some of the most important objects of Mr. Sidney Herbert's great scheme, have made their report, which they divide into the subjoined heads:—1st. The proper selection of emigrants. 2nd. The most effectual mode of protecting the emigrants during their transit to the colonies. 3rd. The aid and protection to be insured to them on landing. 4th. The cost of their outfit and passage. One of the indispensable to selection is good character. The most strict inquiries are to be instituted on this point; and, "in order to test the character and habits of the candidates for emigration," a preliminary "home" is proposed to be established, where their conduct can be watched prior to embarkation. "Assisted emigration" is to form a feature in the operations, and various detail measures are recommended for ensuring the efficacy of the arrangements. The report has been adopted, and a committee of selection has already been appointed "to prepare a list of fifty candidates for emigration."

ADMISSION OF SOLICITORS.—The Master of the Rolls has appointed Monday, Jan. 28, at the Rolls Court, Chancery-lane, at three o'clock in the afternoon, for swearing solicitors. Every person desirous of being sworn on the above day must leave his common-law admission or his certificate of practice for the current year at the secretary's office, Rolls-yard, Chancery-lane, on or before Saturday, Jan. 26.

LECTURE ON SLAVERY.—On Wednesday evening Professor Mahan, of Oberlin, U.S., delivered a lecture on slavery, in the large school-room of Surrey Chapel, Blackfriars-road, to a crowded audience, who were much interested with the Professor's details of the horrors of slavery, and its influence upon education in the southern states. At the conclusion of the lecture a resolution was carried, expressive of the thanks of the meeting to Professor Mahan.

THE DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE OF LAMBETH.—A very extensive and thorough survey of the whole of this large parish is now in the course of being made, under the superintendence of the Commissioners of Sewers, preparatory to an effective system of drainage being introduced throughout this numerously populated district.

FIRE IN THE TEMPLE CHURCH.—On Sunday morning, about half-past seven o'clock, the man employed in lighting the furnace by which the Inner Temple Church is warmed having performed his office, ascended into the choir-stairs-room, which is over the furnace. He had not been in the room many minutes before he was alarmed by the report of an explosion immediately beneath him; on re-entering the furnace-room to ascertain the cause of the noise, he found the place in flames, which he made an ineffectual effort to extinguish by pouring several pails of water over them. He was nearly suffocated by the smoke, and was removed in a state of insensibility by some persons who fortunately came to the spot. Aid was speedily procured. The engine-hose was carried round the church from Fleet-street, and the flames after some difficulty extinguished. A great part of the flooring of the choir-stairs-room was, however, burnt, but fortunately the sacred edifice escaped without injury, and divine service in the morning was performed as usual. An inquiry into the cause of the fire has shown, that for some time past the man in charge of the furnace-room had been in the habit of piling bundles of wood over the boiler of the furnace to dry. On Saturday last a great quantity was placed there; and on Sunday morning, shortly after the fires were lighted, the heat of the boiler set the whole of the wood in flames. The explosion was caused by the bursting of the slate roof, from the action of the fire.

STATISTICS OF LONDON FIRES IN 1849.—The total number of serious fires during the year, at some of which the premises were totally destroyed, amounted to 256: amongst which was the large fire which destroyed the warehouses of Messrs. Gooch and Cousins, in London-wall; that which occurred in Messrs. Bals Brothers' premises, at the foot of London-bridge; that which destroyed the patent Kamptulion works in the Greenwich-road; the one which was attended with so much loss of property in New-square, Lincoln's-inn; that which burned down the Olympic Theatre, and injured so many houses; the one at the Railway-wharf at Bow Creek; and another which destroyed an oil and colour warehouse, and damaged nearly a dozen of houses in Great Suffolk-street, Southwark. The number of premises in which the fires were extinguished, with only slight damage, amounted to 582, making the total number of fires for the year, 838; during the year 1848, the total number of fires were 805, showing an increase for 1849 of 33. The number of fatal fires for 1849 was 11, and the number of lives lost thereat amounted to 20. During 1849 the engines and firemen had been called out to 89 alarms from chimneys being on fire; and during the same period they had been called out 76 times to false alarms; making a total of false alarms for the year of 165. During the year preceding there were no fewer than 206 false alarms, being an increase over 1849 of 41. The total number of fires and false alarms for the year was 1003, whilst for the preceding year (1848) the number was 1011, being 8 more than last year.

ACCIDENT AT A MODEL LODGING-HOUSE.—On Thursday evening, just as the men employed in the erection of the model lodging-house for families, in George-street, Bloomsbury, were about to leave work, an upper arch of the building, which is four stories high, gave way, carrying with it some of the lower arches, and burying in the ruins three unfortunate men who were working in a lower apartment. On being extricated from their perilous position, they were conveyed to the Middlesex Hospital, severely injured.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—For the week ending Saturday last, the births registered were 1383: males, 683; females, 700. Deaths, 1156: males, 546; females, 610. The average of deaths for ten corresponding weeks of previous years (1840-9) is 1125, which, if a correction be made for increase of population, becomes 1237. The lowest number in the ten weeks was 916 in 1840; the highest was 1401, in 1848. Though the rate of mortality has much increased since December, and the present return shows an increase of nearly a hundred on the previous week, the deaths are still less than the average by 71. To the coldness of the weather may be chiefly ascribed the increase of mortality which recent returns have exhibited. In the last three weeks, the deaths from phthisis, or consumption, have been respectively 129, 140, and 157 (the corrected average for last week being 146); from bronchitis, 103, 120, and 131 (the average being 73); from asthma, 19, 35, and 27 (the average being 52); and from pneumonia, 95, 83, and 85, whilst the average is 117. Of the 85 persons (comparatively few) who died last week from pneumonia, 60 were children; but of the 131 who died from bronchitis, which much exceeds the average, by far the larger proportion were persons of advanced age. Seven men and 14 women died last week at 85 years of age and upwards; one of the latter, in Bishopsgate workhouse, had reached the age of 99. Epidemic diseases continue to be less fatal than usual, except measles, which carried off 37 children, or rather more than the average. This disease ranged in the corresponding weeks of ten previous years from 8 to 51. Only 10 deaths occurred from diarrhoea; and no deaths are ascribed to cholera in the returns of the week; but a man who had cholera in August, and never wholly recovered from the effects of it, died in St. Thomas's Hospital, where he had been for nine weeks. During the last seven weeks only two deaths from cholera have appeared in the bills of mortality.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—The mean daily reading of the barometer at the Greenwich Observatory was 29.574 in. The mean daily temperature ranged from 25.5 degrees on Tuesday to 40.6 degrees on Saturday. The mean of the week was 31.1 degrees, which is 5.5 degrees less than the average of the same week in seven years. On Tuesday the mean temperature was nearly 11 degrees less than the average.

THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1851.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert presided on Friday last at a meeting of the Royal Commission for the Promotion of the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations, to be held in the year 1851.

His Royal Highness arrived at the new Palace of Westminster, at twelve o'clock, attended by Colonel the Hon. E. Grey and Colonel F. H. Seymour.

The Commissioners present were Earl Granville, Lord John Russell, the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, Sir Archibald Galloway, Sir R. Westmacott, Sir Charles Lyell, Mr. Barry, Mr. Cubitt, Mr. Eastlake, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Pusey, and Mr. Alderman Thompson; the secretary, Mr. Stafford Northcote, was in attendance.

The meeting broke up at a quarter-past four o'clock, when Prince Albert, attended by Colonel F. H. Seymour, left for the railway termini, on his return to Windsor Castle.

We understand that the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert have commenced the subscription for carrying out the Exhibition—her Majesty by giving £1000, and the Prince £500.

THE ASSYRIAN INSCRIPTIONS.

On Saturday, an unusually numerous meeting of the members of the Royal Asiatic Society was held at their rooms, in New Burlington-street, for the purpose of receiving a promised communication relating to the inscriptions lately discovered at Nineveh and its neighbourhood from Major Rawlinson, who has recently returned from exploring these interesting ruins. The Earl of Ellesmere presided on the occasion; and among the members present were Sir R. H. Inglis, M.P.; Sir George Stannion, M.P.; Sir G. T. Colebrooke, M.P., &c.

Major Rawlinson began by assuming that every one present was acquainted with the valuable work of Mr. Layard on this subject, and therefore he would not attempt to describe the remains which had been discovered in Assyria, but would refer for such information to Mr. Layard's book. The greater number of the inscriptions, he remarked, were generally supposed to have been found at Nineveh; but the correct modern name of the place was Nimrud. And though it was in all probability one of the group of cities to which Jonah was sent, yet it had no claim to be considered Nineveh itself—its ancient name, as denoted on the inscriptions, was Khala, or Sala, and was probably the Calneh mentioned in the 10th chapter of Genesis. The real and principal Nineveh he conjectured to have stood on the site now occupied by that huge mound, on the opposite side of the Tigris from Mosul, on the top of which was the pretended tomb of the prophet Jonah. That mound was held so sacred by the Turks that they would not allow Europeans to excavate it, but he did not believe Mr. Layard would leave the country without bring away some of the inscriptions it contained. There were two other towns in the neighbourhood whose modern names were Khorsabad and Konyunjuk; and these two towns he believed were the two chief cities of the kingdom of Nineveh. The early history of that country was buried in the deepest obscurity. Even if they should be able to decipher all the inscriptions, still these would give but little insight into the chronology of the period, unless they could lay hold of some event which touched upon the history of other countries. They had already obtained some valuable notices of the reigns of six Monarchs in succession, but any one must see that that was but a short way towards a connected history of the nine centuries to which the Assyrian empire extended. Of the six Monarchs he had mentioned, there was little to mark the era of their reigns; but, after being engaged in the examination of the question for many years, the conviction had been forced upon him that the date of the building of the north-west palace of Khala or Nimrud, on which palace the inscriptions relating to these Monarchs had been found, was nearly coeval with the extinction of the eighteenth dynasty of Egypt, and the first establishment of the Jews in Palestine. The earliest cuneiform inscriptions which he had been able to decipher, related to a King whose name he read as Sardanapalus—not the voluptuary with whose name they were so familiar, but a Monarch much anterior, the builder of the north-west palace; but it did not, therefore, follow that he was the first King or the builder of the city, for several other names of Monarchs are incidentally mentioned, and his own father and grandfather are always spoken of as Kings. He might mention here that a great difficulty was thrown in the way of identifying a Monarch referred to in different inscriptions, or in different parts of the same inscription, from the fact that the names were not marked by any definite phonetic sound, but rather by the sense, so that synonyms were employed to any extent. The inscription to which he had referred began, "This is the palace of Sardanapalus, the humble worshipper of Assarach." There could be no doubt that this Assarach was the Nisroch mentioned in Scripture, in whose temple Sennacherib was slain. He was, most probably, the deified father of the tribe, the Assur of the Bible. This Assarach was styled, in all the inscriptions, as the King, the Father, and the Ruler of the gods, thus answering to the Greek god Chronos, or Saturn, in their Assyrio-Hellenic mythology. The inscription then went on to record the extent of the dominions of King Sardanapalus, from which it appeared that Phenicia was not at that time subject to his sway; but another inscription stated, that, after passing the Great Desert, he received tribute from the Kings of Tyre and Sidon and Achala on the sea-coast. There was another inscription, giving an account of various wars, but in so mutilated a condition that it was impossible to make out a connected narrative. He therefore passed on to another inscription, giving an account of the reign of Tammam Bahr, the son of Sardanapalus. This inscription was complete, and it gave an account of an active and restless Monarch, who, during a period of more than thirty years, carried on his wars and conquests on every side, quelling rebellions, plundering cities, leading Princes into captivity, and slaughtering thousands in battle. These expeditions were invariably headed by the King himself, till towards the thirtieth year of his reign, when, sated with glory, and probably worn out with action, he remained at home, and sent his armies to rob, plunder, and slay, under the command of his lieutenant. The whole of this long and deeply interesting inscription, which gave much curious information respecting the early tribes then inhabiting these countries, as read by Major Rawlinson, supplied a continuous and singularly coherent narrative, in which there were only two checks of any consequence—one was where the events of the third and fourth years of the Monarch's reign were hopelessly mixed up together, and which Major Rawlinson said he could only account for by supposing that the workman employed to make the inscription had inadvertently left out a line; and the other was where, towards the end of his reign, the events of a campaign begun by the lieutenant were ascribed to the King, and which is probably to be ascribed to the vanity of the Monarch or the flattery of the scribe. It was further mentioned that the events of one of the early campaigns, productive of more than ordinary treasure, were commemorated in more detail in an inscription on a colossal bull which had been found among the ruins, and which Major Rawlinson also read. Above the inscription were several epigraphs illustrative of the tribute received from different countries. He could not attempt to decipher all the articles apparently enumerated, but among them were gold and silver, horses and camels, which were termed "beasts of the desert, with double backs." There were also mutilated inscriptions relating to the son and grandson of this Monarch; but after them it appeared that, from domestic troubles and foreign conquests, there was an interruption to this dynasty; and when events could be again deciphered through the inscriptions, there appeared to be such a great change in the manners and customs of the people, that Mr. Layard had thought a new race had come to inhabit the land. He (Mr. Rawlinson) was not of that opinion, though he was satisfied a great change must have occurred among the people. There had been an interregnum, and possibly another branch of the family came afterwards to the throne; but the later inscriptions all asserted the then reigning Monarchs to be of the family of Sardanapalus. One curious fact apparent from the later inscriptions was, that a strong Celtic element had been infused into the west of Asia, for the Cymri were referred to in almost every inscription. He could not venture, however, to go into the inscriptions at that meeting; but, if the society wished it, he should be happy to continue the reading of them at another meeting of the society. (Loud applause.) The gallant officer concluded by reading a note he had recently received from Major Layard, giving an account of some further interesting discoveries he had made at Nimrud.

In answer to a question, Major Rawlinson said that undoubtedly the language was of a *bond fide* Semitic character, closely allied to the Hebrew and Chaldean in the pronouns and prenominal affixes, but otherwise more allied to the African language; and he had a strong impression that what was called the Semitic language, would be found to have come from Africa.

The Earl of Ellesmere then conveyed to Major Rawlinson the thanks of the meeting for his deeply interesting communication, the gratification with which they had all heard the extraordinarily perspicuous result of his labours in the East, and expressed a hope that he would continue his expositions at a future meeting of the society.

The meeting then separated.

LORD BROUGHAM IN PARIS.—Lord Brougham read at the Institute, before a most numerous and brilliant auditory, a paper giving a detailed account of the experiments on light on which he has been for some time past engaged. His Lordship not only explained the nature and result of his late scientific researches on this subject, but at great length went through, on the black board, a series of mathematical calculations and demonstrations in support of his views. The paper and explanations were listened to with the greatest interest, and his Lordship was frequently greeted with the most enthusiastic applause, as well as warmly congratulated at the close by the numerous scientific men present. When the noble academical had concluded, Mr. Arago observed "how much the scientific world was indebted to the noble Lord for his exertions;" adding, "that these most interesting experiments and demonstrations, which Lord Brougham had conducted on the Newtonian theory of attraction, he (Mr. Arago) believed he could explain by the other theory which some philosophers supported. He would probably at some future sitting explain his views on the matter to which he then adverted." Part of the curious apparatus invented by Lord Brougham, for his experiments (beautifully made by Soleil of Paris), was displayed on the table, and excited a considerable share of curiosity.—*Galignani.*

LADY JOHN RUSSELL'S REUNION.—Lady John Russell gave the first of a series of assemblies on Wednesday evening, at the private residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, in Chesham-place. Besides the members of the Corps Diplomatique, there were present the Earl and Countess Grey, the Earl of Granville, the Earl of Minto and Lady Harriet Elliott, Lady Hilsop and Miss Elliott, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lady Mary Wood; Hon. John Elliott, M.P.; Hon. H. Elliott, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. F. Elliott; Mr. Tuftnell, M.P., and Lady Anne Tuftnell, &c. [A truly comfortable family party.]



SKATING IN THE REGENT'S-PARK.

CURLING MATCH

BETWEEN THE EARL OF MANSFIELD AND EARL OF EGLINTON,
FOR £50 A SIDE.

THIS match came off on Wednesday, the 16th instant, on Airthrie Loch, near Bridge-of-Allan. From the depth of snow in the north, it was doubtful whether Lord Mansfield could come up; but he, with his party, arrived a little before one o'clock, having travelled from Perth by Central Railway, with no less than four engines to two carriages. Their Lordships, immediately on arriving, commenced to clear a rink—no easy matter, there being about eight inches of snow on the ice; this, by the united efforts of the party, was swept in less than half an hour; and the toss having been won by Lord Mansfield, the winning game commenced at 20 minutes past one. The sides were as follows:—

1. Capt. James Drummond	agst	Fairley, Esq.
2. Earl of Mansfield		Earl of Eglinton.
3. Sir Thomas Moncrieff		J. D. Ferguson, Esq.
4. Master of Strathallan		Sir James Boswell.

The north party scored three the first lead; and having thus taken the lead, they kept it all through the game. The playing was very fine on both sides; and at twenty minutes past four, the numbers were 26 to 19, Lord Mansfield being the winner by seven shots. At the commencement of the play, Lord Eglinton proposed a bet of a load of meal for each of their respective parishes, which was accepted. The whole of the gentlemen played with great spirit and interest, and the playing was considered above the average of matches.

Another game, between the Bridge-of-Allan and Blair Clubs, sixteen a side, took place not fifty yards from where their Lordships were at work; but such is the all-engrossing attention of keen curlers each to his own rink, that little or no attention was paid to the arrival of their august neighbours, who cleared their own rink like jolly brothers, and set to. The clubs had a tough battle, the score being 74 to 70.

Lord Abercromby (on whose property the lake is) visited the ground several times during the day, and also sent refreshment. At the close, he presented the Bridge-of-Allan Club with a medal, and his Lordship also intimated that they were always welcome to play on the lake.

The annexed is a Sketch of the lake, showing the position of the player &c.; the left-hand rink being that of their Lordships.

SKATING IN THE REGENT'S-PARK.

On Sunday, the frost returned with increased intensity: the ornamental waters in the Parks were again firmly frozen, and throughout the day thronged with thousands of persons. In the enclosure, St. James's-park, the greatest numbers assembled, and between two and three o'clock no fewer than 12,000 were ascertained to have passed through the different entrances by persons stationed for that purpose. The Round Pond and Long Water, Kensington-gardens had an equal number of visitants. The Serpentine was also crowded with skaters and sliders, as also the ornamental water in the Regent's-park. No accidents occurred, beyond a few cases of partial immersion.

Our Artist has sketched that portion of the lake in the Regent's-park immediately adjoining the Island, opposite Sussex-place. The scene here was extremely animated; the skaters were very numerous, and their execution circles and figures was much admired.



CURLING MATCH BETWEEN THE EARL OF MANSFIELD AND THE EARL OF EGLINTON, ON AIRTHRIE LOCH.



THE TAMBOURINE GIRL OF PROCIDA.—PAINTED BY LEOPOLD ROBERT.

My Procida*, my native isle,
Mine emerald in a golden deep;
My garden where the roses smile,
My vineyard where the tendrils creep.
How sweetly glide the summer hours,
When twilight shows her silver sheen;
And youths and maids from all the bowers
Come forth to play the Tambourine.

At morn the fisher spreads his sail
Upon our calm encircling sea;
The farmer labours in the vale,
Or tends his vine and orange tree.
But soon as lingering sunset throws
O'er woods and fields a deeper green,
And all the west in crimson glows,
They gather to the Tambourine.

We love our merry native song,
Our moss-grown seats in lonely nooks,
Our moonlight walks the beach along,
For interchange of words and looks.
When toil is done, and day is spent,
Sweet is the dance with song between;
The jest for harmless pleasure meant,
And tinkle of the Tambourine.

My Procida, my isle of peace—
My father's home, my mother's grave—
May evermore thy joys increase,
And plenty o'er thy corn-fields wave!
May storms ne'er vex thine ocean surf,
Nor war pollute thy valleys green;
Nor fail the dance upon thy turf,
Nor music of the Tambourine! C. M.

THE FEAR OF THE WORLD; OR, LIVING FOR APPEARANCES.

BY THE BROTHERS MAYHEW.

Authors of the "Greatest Plague of Life," &c.

CHAPTER IX.

FROM what took place on the morrow, it seemed as if the buttermilk had been working like yeast, for the whole neighbourhood seemed in a ferment. Knock after knock came to the door as fast as on Boxing-day; and Mrs. Nicholls, on looking out of her bed-room window, saw a small knot of creditors standing at the corner of the street, evidently discussing the important question of her husband's solvency.

This was the most trying time Mr. Nicholls had ever had to contend with. He had no heart for the business. To add to his misery, too, he had that morning had a few words with Mrs. Nicholls. He had insisted upon her seeing the tradesmen when they called, saying that it was part of the housekeeping business. But the lady had declared she was far too unwell for such a trial; adding, that it struck her as being highly indecent for a lady to interfere at all with a pack of men; and, indeed, she had spoken so freely on the subject, that Nicholls had been forced to order her to her bed-room—a request the lady had complied with without a murmur.

But the days of Nicholls's fashionable life were not yet numbered. His good fortune once more reprieved him from the disgrace of being obliged to confess himself a poorer man than he professed to be. The fact was, Mrs. Nicholls had wasted all the morning in endeavouring to find out some excuse that should, at the same time that it added to his glory, add to his credit also. But, despite the brandy he had put in his tea, and the hour and a half he had lolled away on the sofa, he could think of nothing in any way suited to the purpose.

He was in this state when the first knock was shown into the room; and so taken by surprise was he when half a yard of butcher's bill was handed to him, that, scarce knowing what he was saying, Nicholls, for the first time in his life, truthfully explained the situation in which he stood. "In a fortnight's time," he added, "I expect a large sum of



"He saw Parker enter with the waiter piled up with letter-looking bills."

money to be paid into my banker's, and then I shall have much pleasure in discharging not only your bill but every one I may owe in the neighbourhood."

To his surprise, the man seemed perfectly satisfied with this answer, and took his leave with so many apologies, that Nicholls, in his delight even condescended to escort him to the door.

Mrs. Nicholls, as she heard the street-door slam, had another peep from her window. She saw the man that had left, join the group at the lamp-post; then followed another consultation; and, finally, the whole party, with drawn bills, advanced to the house. Mrs. Nicholls flew to the smelling-bottle. Her husband, too, gave a slight start as he heard the second knock that was to summon him to happiness or the Palace Court. When he saw Parker enter with the waiter piled up with letter-looking bills, he thought he should have fallen to the ground; but when the boy added that the gentlemen had all gone, and would call again in a fortnight's time, Nicholls's peace and colour returned, and he flew up-stairs to Sara, to tell what a glorious victory he single-handed had gained over their much-dreaded enemies, who, armed with the full powers of the law, had come to storm him in his castle.

"There, didn't I tell you you would be able to do it much better than I should, you dear clever fellow? Ah, you were made for a barrister, you rogue; you can persuade one to do anything, you can," cried Sara, as she kissed him.

"Yes, you are always right, my poppet," answered Nicholls, with a momentary pang at having let the woollack slip through his idle fingers.

If the happy pair could have forgotten the jeweller, they would have been without a care. But those diamonds of the first water kept weighing on their minds with an hydraulic pressure that seemed likely to break the peace from them for ever. Mrs. Nicholls had already discovered three grey hairs; and Mr. Nicholls's waistcoats were so loose that he could comfortably bear them buttoned after dinner.

When the great settling-day came to hand, Mr. Nicholls, with the parental quarterly cheque duly changed into sovereigns, sat in state, with his desk before him, in all the importance of a man who was ready to fulfil his promise to pay. As each tradesman was shown in, the amount of his bill, neatly folded up in paper of the purest *coulour de rose*, was handed to him, and directly the receipt was signed he was dismissed, with a glass of wine, and a neat speech, calculated to remove all ill-feeling that existed between them and quiet all Mr. Nicholls's fears at

* Procida is a fertile and vine-clad island at the north-west entrance of the Bay of Naples. The men are mostly sailors and fishermen; the dress of the women bears some resemblance to that of the women of the Greek islands.

to "all further favours being properly attended to"—a point on which his happiness and his dinners mainly depended for the next three months to come.

No sooner was this important business settled, than Nicholls, cramming the remainder of the notes and money into his pocket, hurried to Lincoln's Inn with all the speed of a one-horse power cab, to see whether he could not come to some arrangement in the case of Soane v. Nicholls.

It was then that Mr. Nicholls, for the first time, felt how expensive a luxury law was, and he could not help passing several very severe remarks—to himself—upon the great rogues of attorneys in general, and law-makers in particular. At first he had felt certain that he would be able to make almost any arrangement he liked; every one was so civil, and he was ushered from one room to another in a way quite gratifying to a defendant's feelings. Presently he was left alone with a stout gentleman, all in plain black and white, like an act of Parliament, who bowed and smiled so condescendingly, that Nicholls, gaining courage, talked boldly of the settlement he was so anxious to make.

At the magic word "settlement," a bill of costs, too thick to appear like a dream, was popped into Nicholls' hands. As he turned over the pages and read a few of the "To attending defendant on further postponement," he saw with horror that the days' upon days' delay he had obtained had cost him as dearly as if they had been golden days. To complete his misery, too, all the offers he made to arrange were refused; Messrs. Soane (no doubt, remembering the scene at the pawnbroker's) being determined that nothing under debt and costs should wipe out all differences between them.

"I would give sixty pounds now, and the remainder in three months," said Nicholls, with a supplicating look.

"Debt, one hundred and twenty; costs, thirty-eight pounds, you see," answered the lawyer, smiling, as he drew up his shoulders.

So Nicholls jumped into his cab again, and, tired of the world, went home to let the partner of his joys and sorrows have her full share of his misery.

In his affliction, the young barrister—not knowing what on earth to do—resolved to reform, to be prudent, and to save. For about the one-hundredth time, he swore to tear himself away from Almack's and Kensington Gardens for ever. He would change his name, live in some desirable residence, delightfully situated, a hundred miles from Lincoln's Inn; and there, with his wife and little ones around him, live the prudent and inexpensive life of a hermit, until his savings would enable him to abuse that jeweller to his heart's content. But, like old father Adam, he was doomed to lose the paradise he had dwelt in for the last ten minutes, through the folly of his wife—but with this difference: Eve used an apple; Mrs. Nicholls a "hop." Quadrilles at nine.

As Sara told him, the time for their party had come round, and all she wished to know was, were they to give one that year or not. She didn't want it. She would be only too glad to get out of it. Last year it made her ill for a month; in fact, it was no pleasure to her. Of course, Nicholls, after his meditations on retrenchment, was dreadfully opposed to anything of the kind.

"Very well, my dear," continued his wife, "of course you know best. Only, after that disgraceful scene in the open street the other day, it will look very strange if, all at once, we drop giving our party. People will talk, Wellesley, and it struck me that it would be an excellent opportunity of contradicting all the nasty reports that are abroad—especially as our credit is so good just now. Nobody loves economy more than I do, my love; but then persons shouldn't go to balls if they are not going to give balls in return, dearest."

For three days the husband withstood the constant attacks of his wife. Sara, however, nothing daunted, besieged him so closely, aimed her "ball" so truly, cut short the provisions so dexterously, and dealt out the destruction of their fashionable life so murderously, that at last Nicholls was forced to surrender, on condition that his ready money should be spared. So the day was fixed, scented paper bought, and invitations sent.

Nobody to have seen the bustle and splendour that had suddenly broken out at the Nicholls's, would have for one moment imagined that they had ever known what it was to want a ten-pound note. Chandeliers, sofas, and ottomans were uncovered, carpets taken up and rout seats being taken in. The drawing-room redolent with geraniums and roses; the hall perfumed with jellies, custards, and pasties. Pastry-cooks flitted in and out of the passage, and there wasn't a house on the terrace that didn't know there was going to be a party at No. 10.

One morning, when Mr. and Mrs. Nicholls were deep in a consultation as to whether they should have a cornet-a-piston on the important evening, a young gentleman from Lincoln's Inn begged to be allowed to say a few words in that case of Soane v. Nicholls. It was merely to serve a notice of trial on the defendant, and to state that the cause stood second on the list for the morrow.

Nicholls was so knocked down by this heavy blow, that Sara became quite alarmed. If he had raved, and stamped, and sworn, she would not have cared so much; but to see him sitting all day long in his arm-chair, without speaking a single word or eating a single thing, nearly drove her mad. Half a dozen times she tried to rouse him, and failed. She had brought him jellies, and he had refused them. In fact, Wellesley was quite heart-broken. He knew he had no chance in court—that it would even be madness to defend—and that in less than a week his very bed might be taken from him, to pay for those "precious stones" that had so completely paved his road to ruin.

On the morrow—the day of trial—he never stirred from home. He could almost tell the moment when his case came on; and so great was his curiosity at one time to hear what was said, that, unable to resist the temptation, he had dressed himself to go out; but when the time for starting came, the fear lest his pawing the diamonds should be exposed kept him within doors. Half stupefied with his grief, he moped away the whole day, thinking to himself how long it would be before the furniture it had taken him so much pains to get together would be sold, and he and all his family be turned, perhaps at a moment's warning, into the streets.

In this dilemma, the only chance of safety he could see was in his father. He thought that if Sara were to write to the old man, telling him faithfully all that had happened, and how bitterly he had suffered for his folly, perhaps he might be moved to pity, and lend him the means of turning aside the dreadful results of his extravagance.

So he had Sara into the room, and dictated to her the letter that was to restore or ruin him; and when it was finished, for fear that any accident should take place, he himself posted it.

At breakfast next morning Nicholls sent out for all the morning papers, and made his wife look them over, to see if the dreaded exposure had taken place or not. He would have done it himself, but he was sick with fear, and his pale cheek and shaking hand told the agony he was suffering. So he sat shivering over the fire, listening to the rustling of the papers, and trying to read in the expression of his wife's face whether the world had been made acquainted with the diamond transaction or not.

"Make haste!" he said at last, almost savagely in his impatience.

"I can't see anything in either the *Times* or the *Chronicle*," answered his wife, sharply.

"Thank God!" cried Nicholls, gaining fresh strength as his hope returned. "Look in the other."

"Nothing here either," was the reply; and the last paper is taken up. "Here is something," she said at last, in a tone that made her husband madly snatch the sheet from her hand.

But in another moment he jerked the paper from him, and as he almost danced for joy, cried, "Heaven be praised that I didn't defend! If I had only thought for one moment, there could be no evidence if there was no defence. I may be able to manage it all yet, and I will too, if I have to rob for the money."

All their hopes now were centered in the answer Sir Giles would send them. Nicholls went into a calculation to see the shortest time by which a reply could possibly reach them. He proved very clearly to Sara that the old gentleman was certain to send them the money, and had even arranged the short speech expressive of his feeling of disgust that he would oblige the Messrs. Soane with when he discharged their debt. All fear had vanished, and a hint at a disappointment would have been laughed down, like Dr. Dee's great London earthquake prophecy.

Had Nicholls been an Encke, he could not have foretold with greater precision the exact day when the post-office Mercury, in describing his circle, would come within the attraction of his street-knocker; for, at the moment specified, came the parental answer, and with it the complete destruction of the airy castles the unfortunate barrister had lately been revelling in. His father, instead of pitying, only abused him for

his extravagance. He hoped it would be a good lesson to him; and even went so far as to say that, if his son couldn't manage to keep out of debt with £500 a year, he would see what he could do with just enough to prevent his going to the workhouse.

As if paralyzed by this last misfortune, Nicholls lost all energy or wish to save himself. Shut up in his dressing-room, he waited quietly for the ruin and disgrace his creditors were preparing for him. Like a wretched criminal, he sat counting the minutes before the execution should take place. Sara, alarmed at the despair she saw in her husband's conduct, placed safely under lock and key all his razors; and, fearful lest in his sorrow he should do some rash deed, she watched him narrowly, never even permitting him to leave his room unless she was by his side. Nor would she allow anything to be said or given to him that might in any way irritate him or add to his sufferings. All the law notices that came to the house she herself took and locked up, so that her husband might not be worried by them. But poor Mrs. Nicholls might have spared herself all this useless trouble. Her Wellesley was by far too fond of this world to think of leaving it before he was turned out. The very notion of a coroner's inquest, and a burial at midnight at cross roads, was sufficient to prevent him from injuring himself either by word or deed. Besides, there was the party coming off in a day or two, and a pretty thing it would be to have that bungling Parker telling the visitors as they came to the door, that "the party was put off 'cos master had killed himself."

What surprised him more than anything else was the apparently extreme lenity of the victorious jeweller. Sara's zeal had kept from him all the law papers; and he, from not seeing them, imagined that his enemies, tired of conquest, were resting awhile upon their writs. His doubts, however, were soon dispelled by the sudden appearance of a certain gentleman who, in the name of Sloman, demanded admittance for himself, and three shillings a day, and the use of the drawing-room for his follower, in so imperative a manner that Nicholls felt convinced it was useless resisting a man armed with the law, and standing six feet three in his bluchers.

Whilst Nicholls was yet talking to the men in the hall, the pastry-cook, followed by two barley-sugar bird-cages and a pound-cake elephant, entered. In his alarm, lest his visitors should be recognised, Nicholls immediately hurried them into the parlour, where the table and sideboard were loaded with the plate, epergnes, and candelabra Nicholls had hired, to add to the supper-table effect. In an instant, one of the men, pulling out a small dirty memorandum-book, commenced making a list of the different articles; whilst the other, in a most impressive legal way, warned Nicholls of the penalties he would incur if a single article was removed from the house.

This was more than Nicholls could endure. Calling to Sara, who was busy in the drawing-room, that she was wanted in the parlour, he seized his hat and hurried out of the house. He now determined that, come what might, he would relinquish his former vow of having nothing more to do with bills, and once more fly to the money-lenders for help. It was just two o'clock, the time when Lively Harry always went to the club to read the papers and get his letters. So Nicholls hurried down to him, and found him in his usual delightfully reckless state, wishing to oblige everybody; so that before two bottles of sherry and the last night's debate had been discussed, the bill was drawn, accepted, and safely stowed away in Nicholls's pocket-book.

But it seemed as if the whole tribe of Israel was aware of the dreadful state of the Nichollsonian finances. It was in vain he smiled and complimented, for, at the very mention of Lively Harry's name, they would decline, in the politest manner, having anything at all to do with that gentleman. Only once Nicholls had a chance, but then he must have taken one-half the amount in green cotton umbrellas—a thing that seemed to him to be providing too plentifully against a rainy day.

Nearly driven to his wit's end, it at last struck Nicholls that, perhaps, they would be better pleased if they saw the name of Reuben Marsh in place of Henry Chandos, so he hurried back to the office of the most moderate of his discounting capitalists—a gentleman who only wanted what was fair, and never charged more than five-and-twenty per cent.—and was delighted to find how just all his suppositions were. The name of Reuben Marsh was agreed upon; and Nicholls, bounding into the street, as light as a Jew's pound weight, hurried home for his carpet-bag, that he might lose no time in getting down to Farnham.

Although the day was nearly gone, still Nicholls insisted on starting immediately. It was much better, thought he, to have this business settled at once, and get the worry and bother of it off his mind.

(To be continued.)

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE change in the weather, although too recent to allow any of the events announced for this week to come off, leads us to expect that the fixtures for the ensuing one will lead to "business" in hunting, coursing, and steeple-chasing. Of the last-mentioned class of racing, only one meeting is advertised—the Louth, for which a fair entry has been obtained. The coursing fraternity will be occupied on Monday with the Amicable and Newcastle meetings; on Tuesday with the Penrhyn (Wales); on Wednesday, at Middleham, Newcastle and Durham, and Hewell; and on Thursday, the open Caledonian. All the hunting appointments are "weather permitting."

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—A very strong muster of the operatives of the ring, and books brim-full of commissions, caused business this afternoon to be exceedingly animated, and the prices, in many instances, to undergo important changes. We may especially refer to the advance of Fugleman and Miss Ann for the Chester Cup, and Ghillie Callum for the Derby. The latter was, in reality, first favourite.

15 to 1 agst Rat-trap (t)	20 to 1 agst Sir John (t)	30 to 1 agst Rory-be-nisy (t)
15 to 1 — Knight of Gwynne (t)	25 to 1 — Farnham (t)	50 to 1 — Tipperary Boy (t)
	20 to 1 — Agitation (t)	50 to 1 — Bayonet (t)
	50 to 1 — Little Fanny (t)	
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.		
20 to 1 agst Harriott (t)	25 to 1 agst Little Jack (t)	
20 to 1 — Velox (t)	26 to 1 — Giselle (t)	
METROPOLITAN HANDICAP.		
20 to 1 agst Black Eagle	25 to 1 agst Snowstorm (t)	
25 to 1 — Retail	30 to 1 — Sir Gilbert (t)	
CHESTER CUP.		
20 to 1 agst Glaucus	35 to 1 agst Chantry	65 to 1 agst Roland
20 to 1 — Miss Ann	35 to 1 — The Flea	100 to 1 — Van Diemen (t)
20 to 1 — Fugleman (t)	40 to 1 — Lady Evelyn	100 to 1 — Kelesha (t)
25 to 1 — Peep-o'-day Boy (t)	50 to 1 — Esedarius (t)	100 to 1 — Dulcet (t)
	50 to 1 — Baroness (Irish)	100 to 1 — Minimum (t)
25 to 1 — Whim colt	60 to 1 — Grief (t)	100 to 1 — Damask (t)
33 to 1 — Harriott	65 to 1 — Glenalvon (t)	100 to 1 — Melody (t)
33 to 1 — Cossack	65 to 1 — Loup-garou (t)	

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS STAKES.		
2 to 1 agst The Bee-Hunter (t)		
DERBY.		
9 to 1 agst Bolingbroke (t)	12 to 1 — Knight of Avenel	17 to 1 agst Voltigeur (t)
9 to 1 — Ghillie Callum (t)	30 to 1 agst Mavors	20 to 1 — Clincher
	75 to 1 agst Probity	

THURSDAY.—The subjoined quotations are chiefly the result of business transacted on Tuesday and Wednesday, very little having been done this afternoon; they show a great improvement in Harriott and Osterley for the Northamptonshire Stakes; in Cossack for the Chester Cup; and Ghillie Callum for the Derby.

100 to 6 agst Sir John	LIVERPOOL STEEPLE CHASE.	40 to 1 agst Grand Lumiere
	30 to 1 agst Agitation	
	40 to 1 agst Rescue	
8 to 1 agst Harriott	NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.	20 to 1 agst Velox
	10 to 1 agst Osterley	
25 to 1 agst Snowstorm	METROPOLITAN HANDICAP.	33 to 1 agst Ellerslie (t)
30 to 1 — Testator	30 to 1 — Ada Mary	33 to 1 — Cheerful
	50 to 1 agst Dough.	
CHESTER CUP.		
20 to 1 agst Glaucus	33 to 1 agst The Flea (taken freely)	50 to 1 agst John Cosser
20 to 1 — Fugleman	35 to 1 — Lady Evelyn	65 to 1 — Sunnyvale
25 to 1 — Miss Ann	35 to 1 — Chantry	65 to 1 — Chanticleer
25 to 1 — Cossack (t)	40 to 1 — Elterdale	50 to 1 — Woolwich (t)
25 to 1 — Whim colt	45 to 1 — Harriott	100 to 1 — Dough
25 to 1 — Peep-o'-day Boy	50 to 1 — Clormont	100 to 1 — Melody
33 to 1 — Roland		
DERBY, 1851.		
No change, except in Ghillie Callum, who was quoted at 8 to 1.		
OAKS.		
to 1 agst Probity		12 to 1 agst Regina

One of the largest species of cormorants was shot in the River Beaulieu, Inverness, on the 12th instant. Regardless of its being close time for salmon fishing, he was pursuing his vocation with ardour, when the fatal shot ended his sport. His gullet contained a fish of the salmon kind, measuring nearly two feet in length and 4 lb. in weight.

MUSIC.

THE MADRIGAL SOCIETY.

The programme at the 109th anniversary festival of this ancient society, founded by John Innys, the lawyer, in 1741, at the Twelve Bells, in Bride-lane, was remarkably well selected. The first part began with T. Forde's psalm, "Almighty God" (1614); and the second opened with Palestrina's hymn, "I will give thanks;" the former a fine work—the latter positively sublime in gorgeous harmony and intensity of devotional feeling. The madrigals which were encored were W. Byrd's "While the bright sun" (1589), F. Pilkington's "Now peep—Bo-peep" (1600), Luca Marenzio's "When April deck'd in roses gay" (1580), J. Bennett's "When as I glance" (1599), J. Dowland's "Fine knacks for ladies" (1600), and J. Wilbye's "Flora gave me fairest flowers" (1598). There were, also, in the scheme T. Weelke's "In pride of May" (1608), G. Ferretti's "Sigh not, fond shepherd" (1580), T. Weelke's "Cold winter's ice" (1600), J. Ward's "Hope of my heart" (1613), and the customary *finale*, Saville's "Waits" (1667). There were fourteen cantos (boys of the Chapel Royal and Westminster Abbey), sixteen altos, twenty-four tenors, and thirty-two basses in the choir. The general execution of the music, conducted ably by Mr. King, was excellent—the light and shade of the ancient compositions were delicately observed. The festival was held in Freemasons' Hall, the gallery being graced by the presence of ladies, and the guests not taking a part in the performance occupying tables under the Sussex statue. The president of the Society, Lord Saltoun, being prevented from attending by an attack of the gout, Major Oliphant took the chair. There were also present General Sir Andrew Barnard, Sir John Campbell, Hon. G. O'Callaghan, Messrs. R. Grenfell, Bayley, Fitzherbert, J. Evans (President of the Western Madrigal Society), Budd, Oliphant, Appleby, Bishop, Rae, Bentinck, Robertson, Baumer, Rippingham, Lyon, Addison, Hogarth, Grunstein, &c. The members of the musical profession included Sir George Smart, Messrs. Osborne, Ella, Lucas, Howell, Cipriani Potter, Turle, King, Lockey, Barnby, Elliott, Machin, J. Bennett, Land, Spencer, Benson, Goss, Brownsmith, Howe, Coward, &c. The grace, "Non nobis," was beautifully sung after the dinner, as may be expected from such a body of accomplished professors and amateurs. No time is lost at these musical festivals in useless speeches; the loyal toasts and those connected with the society were given in rapid succession, generally with the musical honours—this is harmonized burrahs. Mr. Oliphant, the hon. secretary, made a speech full of point and epigram, when the toast of "The officers of the society" was proposed.

MUSICAL EVENTS.—The Choral Harmonists commenced their eighteenth season on Monday last, at the London Tavern. Beethoven's first Mass in C, and Weber's cantata, "The praise of Jehovah," formed the first part; and Morley's madrigal, "I follow to the footings," with overture and selection from Weber's "Oberon," were included in the second part. Misses Birch and Dolby, Messrs. Lockey and Lawler, were the principal singers; and Mr. Dando was leader of the band.—Mr. Milne, with the Misses Smith and Mr. F. Smith, repeated their entertainment of Scottish songs, last Monday, at Crosby Hall.—On Tuesday evening, at the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution, a series of quartet and solo concerts, under the able direction of Mr. E. W. Thomas, was commenced, with Mr. Mori, Mr. Weslake, and Mr. Guest—all players in the Royal Italian Opera orchestra; Miss Kate Loder being the pianist. Mozart's Quartet in E flat, No. 4, Haydn's Quartet in E, No. 82, Beethoven's pianoforte, violin, and violoncello trio in B flat, No. 4, C. E. Horsley's Quartet in D, No. 2, Wallace's "Cracovienne," for the piano, and Mayse's Danish air, with variations, for the violin, comprised a well-balanced selection compiled of all schools. The next concert will be on the 29th inst.—The fourteenth of the London Wednesday Concerts was given on the 23rd, at Exeter Hall. The vocalists were the Misses Lucombe, Poole, Eyles, Mrs. A. Newton, Messrs. Reeves, Land, Leffler, Herr Formes; the solo players were Thalberg, Ernst, and T. Harper (trumpet).—The Cecilian Society had a meeting on Thursday.—On Friday the Sacred Harmonic Society performed, for the second time, Mendelssohn's oratorio, "St. Paul," conducted by Costa, with Miss Catherine Hayes and Miss Dolby, Messrs. Lockey, A. Novello, Smythson, and Herr Formes, for principal vocalists.—Ernst and Stephen Heller, the pianist and composer, will perform this day (Saturday) at a concert in Brighton, with Mademoiselle Grauman and Herr Formes as vocalists.—This evening, at the St. Martin's Hall, the Society of British Musicians will commence a series of six chamber concerts, to be given every succeeding Saturday.—Mr. Willy's fifth classical chamber concert will be given next Monday, at the same place.—The Melodists' Club meet for the first time this season next Tuesday, on which evening Mr. Billet will give his second *seance musicale*.—Halévy's "Val d'Audorre" will be produced in English, for the first time, next Monday, at the Princess Theatre, Middle. Nau, Mrs. Weiss, Miss Louisa Pyne, Messrs. Harrison, Allen, Barker, Latter, and Weiss, being included in the cast.—The Distins have given concerts this week, with Misses O'Connor and Paton as vocalists, at Stamford, Peterborough, Oundle, Boston, and Lincoln.—Mr. Henry Russell had a concert at Kidderminster on Tuesday.—Mr. Templeton gave his "Hour with Burns and Sir W. Scott," last Monday and Tuesday, at Liverpool.—On Friday, Mr. John Parry gave his "Lights and Shadows of Social Life," at the Royal Assembly Rooms, Liverpool.—Sir Henry Bishop has been delivering a series of four lectures on "Music," at the Liverpool Collegiate Institution; he conducted several of his own compositions at the annual dinner of the Apollo Glee Club, at the Adelphi Hotel.—Miss Lucombe, Messrs. Reeves and Whitworth, have been singing in English opera at Southampton and Brighton; and Mr. and Mrs. Donald King and Mr. Borani at Liverpool.—The Royal Academy of Music re-opened last Monday, after the vacation.—Madame Sontag will probably sing at Brussels in a few days.—The coalition of Vivier and Benedict, in the composition of an opera, will be an interesting event for the musical world.—The Western Madrigal Society had their fortnightly meeting last Saturday at the rooms in Lisle-street.

FOREIGN MUSICAL NEWS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The Conservatoire Concerts (Société des Concerts) have begun their season in Paris, under the direction of M. Gerard, the successor of the late Habeneck. Beethoven's Symphony in F was played: the andante was encored. Mozart's "Nozze di Figaro" overture, and a solo of Baillot for the viola (an andante *con sordina*), executed by M. Cavillon, were the other instrumental pieces. M. Massol sang a solo, with chorus, from Rossini's "Siege of Corinth," and Martini's romance, "Plaisir d'Amour," with the choral refrain *sotto voce*.—Last Monday, Viardot, at the Grand Opera, in Paris, on Wednesday she played (in Italian), at the same theatre, *Rosina* in "Il Barbiere;" Duprez being the Count, Levasseur *Basilio*, Lablache *Dr. Bartolo*, and Ronconi *Figaro*—what a cast! The second and third acts of Rossini's "Otello," with Viardot and Duprez, and the third act of Rossini's "William Tell," with Duprez; the "Ecole des Maris" of Molière, played by the *artistes* of the Théâtre Français; Cerito and St. Leon in the "Fleurs Anémées;" and the *Bal* from "Gustavus," terminated this attractive entertainment.—A new ballet for Cerito, "Nolla," and Auber's new grand opera, "L'Enfant Prodigue," are in active rehearsal at the national Opera-House.—Madame Froger has made her *début* in Verdi's "Nabucco" ("Nino"), at the Italian Opera-House in Paris; she has a fine voice. Mademoiselle Armand, a pupil of Duprez, made her first appearance in the same opera. Ronconi's *Nabucco* was sublime.—Joachim, the Viennese violinist, and Cossman and A. Batta, the violoncellists, will pass the winter in Paris.—In the court-yard of the house in which Mozart was born, in Vienna, a marble statue of the composer will be erected, above a magnificent fountain; round the statue will be placed busts of Glück, Haydn, Beethoven, Rossini, Mendelssohn, and Meyerbeer.—A new opera called the "Avenger," by the chapel master, Herr Schindelmeyer, has been produced at Frankfurt, with a "success of esteem"—tantamount to a failure.—Baile's "Bohemian Girl" continues its prosperous career at Frankfurt.—The new opera-house at Pesth contains 38 private boxes, 300 stalls, and in all 2000 persons can be placed.—Signora Albertini (?), an English *prima donna*, is singing in Rome.

THE LATE MADAME GRASSINI.—One of the greatest singers of her time is no more. Madame Giuseppa (Josephine) Grassini, the glory of Italy, of the Consulate and Empire in France, of the King's Theatre in London, in 1805 and 1806, the aunt of Juditha and Giulia Grisi, and of Carlotta Grisi the *dansuse*, expired recently in Milan. She was born at Varese, in Lombardy, in 1775, and the beauty of her voice attracted the attention of General Belgiojoso, who had her educated at Milan. She made her *début* at the Scala, in 1794, singing with the tenors Lazzarini and Marchesi. Her success was prodigious; the beauty of her person, a lovely contralto organ, with elevated notes, great flexibility, and an expressive style, rendered her at once the star of Italy. She sang at Rome, Naples, and Venice, in Zingarelli's "Artaxerxes" and "Giulietta e Romeo," Portogallo's "Demopio," Traetta's "Apelle e Campaspe," Cimarosa's "Orazzi e Curazzi," &c. After the battle of Marengo, in 1800, Napoleon carried Grassini off to Paris, and made her sing at the grand national *fête* given in the Champ de Mars the 22d of July, 1800, at which 800 musicians were engaged. She subsequently visited Germany, and in 1802 succeeded Banti at the King's Theatre in London. In 1804 she was attached to the Opera in Paris at a salary of £2040, with a retiring pension of £600; in London she had £3000 from March to July. She sang in Paris with Tacchiniardi (father of Madame Persiani), Crescentini, Cruvelli, Brizzi, &c. In 1805 she was singing with Mrs. Billington and Braham at the King's Theatre, and was included in the cast of Mozart's "Clemenza di Tito," the first operatic work of the German master introduced in England. Grassini's great triumph in London was in Winter's "Il Ratto di Proserpina," in which Mrs. Billington was the *Ceres*. She returned here in the season 1814, but with impaired powers. For many years she lived retired in Paris, but returned to Italy after the Revolution of February. She took great pains with her niece, the Grisi, who always acknowledged the valuable advantages she derived from Grassini's instructions. The phrasing of this cantatrice, by old amateurs, is mentioned as unrivalled.

The Rev. Richard Edward Kerrich, M.A. (B.A. 1823), Christ's College, Cambridge, has presented to the Society of Antiquaries the cabinet of nearly 4000 Roman and other coins, the collection of his father, the late Rev. Thomas Kerrich, M.A. of Magdalene College, and Librarian of this University. Mr. Kerrich has also added to his father's collection of pictures, already in the possession of the society, a portrait on panel of Margaret of York, third wife of Charles of Burgundy.

Mr. Thomas Rendel, who steered the *Victory* during the battle of Trafalgar, on the 21st of October, 1805, in which Lord Nelson fell, is living on the Strand at Topsham (Devon), and has lately received a medal for that action. Lord Nelson's family had given him a medal shortly after the battle.

THE THEATRES.

DRURY-LANE.

The great dramatic event of the week was the appearance, on Monday, of Miss Vandenhoff and her father in Mr. S. Knowles's fine play of the "Hunchback." Making allowance for a relative want of development, Miss Vandenhoff's Julia is a highly meritorious performance—one of considerable beauty, and full artistic promise. Of *Master Walter*, Mr. Vandenhoff is one of the most satisfactory representatives: in the last scene he was really great. We cannot commend Mr. C. Fisher's *Sir Thomas Clifford*; but, then, Mrs. Nisbett was glorious in *Heleen*, and Mr. F. Vining, as usual, respectable in *Modus*. Altogether, the company at this theatre works better than was anticipated prior to its opening. It has prospered hitherto; a continuance of success, however, must depend on the production of novelty, and a minute attention to the *mise en scène*. To the last but little attention has been as yet paid. The house was well attended.

SADLER'S WELLS.

The first four acts of "Henry VIII." were performed on Monday, Miss Glyn supporting the part of *Queen Katherine*. This lady won great fame last season by her Siddonian impersonation of this majestic character. Her trial-scene in the second act is a rare example of powerful elocution and imperial bearing; while the chamber scene in the fourth, in its sickness, sorrow, dignity, and supernatural feeling, is one of the most perfect and impressive pieces of acting ever witnessed.

NEW STRAND.

The "Love Chase" has been performed here. Mrs. Glover being *Widow Green*, and Mrs. Stirling *Neighbour Constance*. Mr. Farren's *Sir William Fendolice* is excellent.

FRENCH PLAYS.—Thomas's new opera buffon, "Le Caïd," will be produced (for the first time in this country) at the St. James's Theatre on Monday next, in which Mdlle. Charlot will sustain the rôle of *Virginie*.

At the MARLBOROUGH Theatre a melodrama entitled "The Road of Life" has been played nightly during the week.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

MR. HUDSON AND THE YORK, NEWCASTLE, AND BERWICK COMPANY.

Mr. Hudson, the late chairman of this company, has published an address to his former constituents, the shareholders, in justification of his conduct. Mr. Hudson states, that while the questions existing between the company and himself were pending for decision before the legal tribunals of the country, he had no alternative but to wait till a judicial decision could be given upon them before addressing the shareholders; but that, an arrangement having been entered into for the settlement of those questions, the necessity for his silence no longer exists. With regard to the Branding Junction shares, he states that, at a meeting of the company held on the 4th of February, 1845, it was resolved that they should be left at the disposal of the directors, it being expressly understood that they should be given to him for disposal as he thought fit; and without entering into an examination of the services which induced such a resolution to be come to at the time, he certainly did not expect that four years afterwards the disposal of those shares would be questioned or disputed on technical grounds. With regard to the shares in the Newcastle and Berwick Company, Mr. Hudson states that he made himself liable for them before the passing of the act of Parliament, by signing the subscription contract without detriment to other shareholders, and he believes that, had a loss occurred, he might and would have been made responsible for it; and, therefore, it never occurred to him that in retaining the shares he ever incurred any moral or legal obligation to the company. With respect to the Sunderland Docks, Mr. Hudson next proceeds to say that, prior to his connexion with the town, he subscribed £2500 towards them on his private account, believing them to be essential to the interests of the railway company, which he also intended to subscribe for 3000 shares. As the works proceeded, he felt that it was absolutely necessary, to increase the traffic of the railway, that the docks should be completed as soon as possible, and, therefore, 2345 additional shares were purchased for the company, and registered in the name of himself and two other directors—so that they could not themselves individually derive any direct or indirect benefit from the transaction. He admits that in this transaction the board exceeded their legal powers; but he refers to the fact that, had they shrunk from a similar responsibility on former occasions, many very advantageous arrangements which were afterwards legalised would never have been carried out; and expresses his conviction that, had not the directors delayed applying to Parliament for powers to ratify the agreement, in order to save expense by including other matters in the same bill, it would have been legalised long since. He also calls attention to the fact that the purchase of some West Durham Railway shares, which were taken with as little legal authority as the Sunderland Dock shares, has been ratified by the company, the only difference being that the retention of those shares is supposed to be likely to be beneficial to the York, Newcastle, and Berwick Company. Mr. Hudson next alludes to the supply of iron rails to the company, maintaining that he had a right to buy them at a low price, and that he did not charge the company a higher price for them, at the time of their purchase by the company, than they would have had to pay to other parties, or he could have obtained from other companies; and he also states that the transaction occurred before the passing of the act of Parliament vacating the seat of a director concerned in any contract with a company with which he was connected. Having made these explanations, Mr. Hudson says, that he feels it necessary to state why he has submitted to the payment of a sum of money to stay proceedings against him. He had strong opinions from eminent counsel that no claims could be legally substantiated against him; but he was informed that he might be involved in years of litigation, with enormous expense and endless annoyance and anxiety, and he therefore thought it better to agree to the arrangement which had been come to, and has consented to take upon himself the entire responsibility of the Sunderland Dock shares. Mr. Hudson next enters into an explanation of the manner in which amounts which have been considered properly applicable to the traffic accounts have been charged to capital, and points out errors in the accounts as published by the Committee of Investigation. He then expresses his conviction that the declension in the value of the property is not so much to be attributed to the conduct pursued by himself or any other individual as to the course encouraged by the Legislature, of creating undue competing and branch lines, with diminished tolls, on extra cost of construction—a system against which he exerted himself to the utmost, so long as he was able. The remedy for this state of things, Mr. Hudson hopes, will be found in the increasing trade and population of the country; in greater economy in the management of railways, as experience may suggest; and in the absence of fresh schemes for their extension. In conclusion, Mr. Hudson says, addressing the shareholders—"I am aware that transactions have occurred which are to be regretted, but in respect of which it is some consolation to me to reflect that the company have in no instance sustained pecuniary loss. Allow me to ask you to review those transactions with some remembrance of the excited period in which they occurred—the brief opportunities I had for reflection, and of the impossibility of my giving sufficient attention to the public duties and private matters which then claimed my attention," expressing at the same time his conviction of the soundness of the property, in which he still holds a large interest.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—The officers and employees of this company have just presented a testimonial to Mr. Dockray, the resident engineer of the line, consisting of his portrait, painted by Mr. W. H. Phillips, £500 worth of London and North-Western stock, at par, and a purse of gold—an elegant service of plate being at the same time presented to Mrs. Dockray. The subscription for the whole, exceeding £1000, was raised from 700 subscribers. The portrait, which is an excellent likeness, has been already engraved by Mr. T. L. Atkinson, under the superintendence of Messrs. Hodgson and Graves, of Pall Mall; and an impression of the plate is presented to each subscriber of £2 2s. and upwards to the testimonial fund.

SOUTH-WESTERN.—An elegant service of plate has just been presented by the workmen engaged on this line to Mr. Albinas Martin, the late acting engineer, as a testimony of respect for his character, and their regret at his retirement.

Bristol and Exeter.—The directors have replied to the memorial of the shareholders, that resolutions have been passed at the board to the effect that no director shall either directly or indirectly supply any contractor with materials for the use of the company, and that the board would not, in the exercise of their power for supplying vacancies in the direction, elect any person engaged as a carrier on the line.

AMERICAN COMMERCE WITH ASIA BY THE PACIFIC.—A new era has at length dawned in the trade of Asia; for we learn that, by the *Empire City* steamer, quite a cargo of tea, silks, and porcelain was received by Livingston, Wells, and Co., of New York, from China, via San Francisco, Panama, Chagres, &c., being the very first merchandise received in this country by way of the Pacific, and across the narrowest portion of the American continent. The probability is, that this is only the *avant-courier* of our immense traffic. Already arrangements are in progress in New York to run a regular line of steamers for passengers and merchandise between San Francisco, China, and India, across the Pacific Ocean, and touching at the Sandwich or other islands. Now, as in ancient times, the ambition of commerce is India—still India! The same traffic that enriched ancient Egypt, Tadmor in the Wilderness, Petra, Venice, Holland, and, immeasurably more than all, England—is that of India, still India! And at length we find it beginning to flow into the United States across the vast Pacific, through the golden gates of California. This commerce, *maître* all national quarrels about rights of way, will soon display its magic power, in the opening of two or three canals *en Nicaragua*, the Isthmus of Panama, or that of Tehuantepec—probably all of them within twenty years.—*Philadelphia Correspondent of the Morning Chronicle.*

MIDLE JENNY LIND.—Mdlle. Lind has signed a contract with Mr. Plimmes Barnum, of New York, for 150 concerts, to be given in the United States within twelve or eighteen months; for which Mdlle. Lind will receive from £70,000 to £80,000; nearly half of which sum is lodged as security with Messrs. Baring. The agreement was signed on January 9, at Lubbeck, by Mdlle. Lind, who has given concerts there, and at Hamburg, for the benefit of the public charities. For the same noble purpose, Mdlle. Lind has promised the King of Sweden to give a concert at Stockholm previous to her departure, in August or September next, for the United States; prior to which, it is stated, Mdlle. Lind will sing at Liverpool, for the benefit of the "Sailors' Home," the opening of which is expected to be honoured by the presence of her Majesty and Prince Albert.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J W B—1. Your name ought certainly to have been inserted in the list of subscribers. 2. Chess is played on a board, more and more, on the average, now, than it was ten years back. 3. A reprint of the games in question will, probably, be made hereafter. They would form a very interesting collection.

W F A—We doubt the possibility of effecting mate in Problem No. 311 in the way you suggest. It is reply to—1. Q to e4, Black may play—1. P takes K B Pawn. How then would you proceed?

P E—Your "Juvenile offering" is better than many veteran productions. It shall have an early place among our Enigmas.

OMICRON—There is some flaw in the last diagram of "Damosels." Will our Correspondent favour us with a corrected version?

H E K, York—They are both clever. One of them, however, we suspect, has been submitted to us for fun.

H T L—As an actual occurrence in play, the mate sent, in two moves, is very neat and satisfactory.

BELLARY is thanked for his obliging and very acceptable communications.

W F A Dublin—In the situation forwarded, the Red King cannot move to his K 6th, because he would go into check of the Pawn.

BLUE JACKET, U. S. Club, is thanked; but, on his examining Problem No. 312 again, he will find the men are rightly placed, and that the defence he proposes would enable White to mate easily in one move less than the stipulated number.

C W C—White had an obvious purpose in checking with his Q at move 15, viz. to render his adversary's Castling on the Q side insecure.

JOHN OF KENT—1. The King may move one square at a time, all over the board, in any direction. 2. "The Chess-Player's Handbook," published by Bohn.

HU RU—The author's solution of the beautiful Problem No. 311 is perfectly correct, and yours untenable.

J C W—Ingenious, though in no respect difficult.

R K—Your friend must play Chess by rules which no one else ever heard of. Why do you not procure some elementary work upon the game, and show him the absurdity of his propositions?

J P, Hythe—Black may take the K B's Pawn with Pawn, and escape.

B B, Barnstaple—Very crowded and inelegant. Bestow a few weeks' study on the admirable models of problem composition which Mr. Duvivier has presented.

H H—The game shall certainly appear. In the meanwhile, we shall be glad of those in the match mentioned.

W P—No 503 is solved thus—1. Kt to K 6th (ch); 2. Kt to Q B 7th (ch); 3. B to K Kt 7th; 4. B takes P (checkmate). No 504 you should try again.

SIR G B—1. Taking the game from your diagram, it would appear that White may win by force if he play at once Q to K Kt 3d, as his adversary has then no possible means of preventing his capture of the K B Pawn, giving mate next move. If, however, we begin at a subsequent stage—for example, when the Black Queen recedes to her own square—we doubt if the line of play you have marked out could be improved. 2. We quite coincide with you in opinion as to Problem No. 312.

A MEMBER OF THE Y C A, Yorkshire.—The members of your Chess Society ought to find no difficulty in obtaining the "Staunton Chessmen," without sending to London. Powell, of Leeds, we were told, always keeps a stock on hand; apply to him. By the way, has it yet been finally determined where the Yorkshire Chess Association will this year hold its anniversary festival?

Solutions by B B, A Z, THLO-CHES, AMERICANS, SOLOX, MELVILLE, GRANTA, F P T, OXONIENSIS, QUIP, R D V, L S D, ADMIRER, DERRYON, ARGUS, BELLARY, TYRO, SECRETARY OF D C C, VALLEY-FIELD, are all correct. Those by L B N, J P, THETA, BACTUS, are wrong.

C W R—You are quite right.

L B N—Thanks for the correction

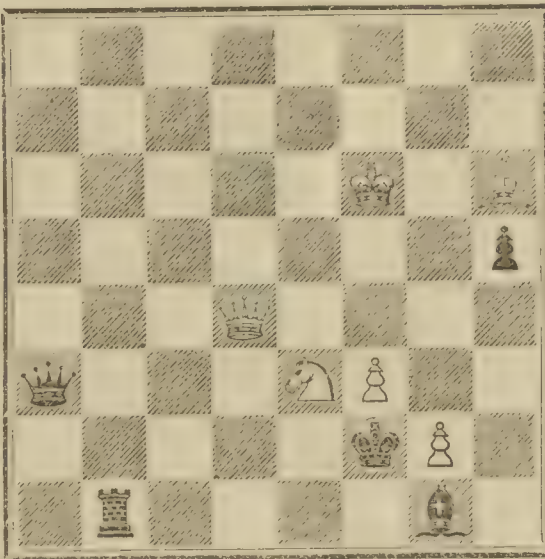
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 313.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to her B sq	R to K R 3d, (or a) (b) (c)	3 P to Kt 4th (ch) R takes P	4. Q mates.
2. Kt to K B 5th	K to K Kt 3d		
(a) 1.	BLACK.	(b) 1.	BLACK.
2. Kt to K B 5th	R to K B 5th	2. Kt to K R 5th	R to K B 6th
3. Q takes R	P takes Kt	3. Q takes R	Kt to K B 5th
And mates next move.		And mates next move.	
(c) 1.	R to K B 7th	2. Kt to K R 5th	R to B 5th
2. P to Kt 4th (ch)	K to Kt 4th (best)	3. Q takes R—Mate.	
3. Kt to Kt 2d (dis-			

PROBLEM NO. 314.

By Mr. W. HORNER.

BLACK.



White to play, and mate in five moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

Game in a Match just played between two rising Amateurs, Messrs. BIRD and HUGHES; the former giving the odds of the Pawn and two moves.

(Remove Black's K B Pawn from the board.)

WHITE (Mr. Hughes).	BLACK (H. E. Bird).	WHITE (Mr. Hughes).	BLACK (H. E. Bird).
1. P to K 4th	P to Q B 4th	12. K B to Q 3d	K B to Q 3d
2. P to Q 4th	P to K Kt 3d	13. P to K B 4th (b)	Kt to Kt 3d
3. Q to K R 5th (ch)	P to Kt 3d	14. Q B to K 3d (c)	Kt to Kt 5th
4. Q takes Q B P	P to K 3d	15. Kt takes Kt	R takes Kt
5. Q to Q B 4th	P to Q 4th	16. K to B 2d	R takes B (d)
6. P to Q B 3d	P takes P	17. K takes R	R to K sq (ch)
7. P takes P	K B to K 2d	18. K to B 2d	Kt takes Q P
8. Q to K 2d (ch)	K B to K 2d	19. P takes Kt	Q takes P (ch)
9. K Kt to B 3d	K Kt to B 3d	20. K to B sq	Q takes B P (ch)
10. K Kt to K 5th	Castles	21. K to B 2d	R to K 8th (ch)
11. Q to B 2d	R to K sq (a)	22. K takes R	Q to B 8th—Mate

(a) Q Kt takes Kt, followed by K Kt to his 5th, would have gained Black an open attacking sort of position.

(b) To take the K Kt P with the Bishop looks inviting, but is not sound.

(c) Black's last move materially alters the appearance of things, and now we should think the taking the K Kt P a perfectly safe and very advantageous move for the first player. Assuredly much better than the move above.

(d) This is irresistible, let White play as he may, and gives a pretty finish to the game.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 530.—By H. E. KIDSON, of York.

White: K at K Kt 4th, R at Q 8th, Kt at K 8th; P's at K B 4th, K 2d, and Q Kt 3d.

Black: K at his 5th, Kt at K R 2d; P's at K 6th, Q 5th, Q B 2d, and Q Kt 5th.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

No. 531.—By E. H. G.

White: K at Q R 5th, Q at K B 6th, B at Q B sq, Kts at Q Kt sq and K 7th; P's at Q 3d, Q B 2d, and Q Kt 5th.

Black: K at Q B 4th, Q at K Kt 4th, R at K Kt sq, Bs at K Kt 8th and Q R sq; P's at K B 5th, Q 3d and 5th, Q B 6th, and Q Kt 5th.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

No. 532.—By AN AMATEUR.

White: K at Q B 4th, Q at K B 3d, Bs at Q 8th and Q R 6th, Kt at K B 8th, P's at Q Kt 4th and 6th.

Black: K at Q 3d, B at K Kt 4th and Q B 3d, Kt at Q B 2d, P at K 4th.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

No. 533.—By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW, of York.

White: K at Q R sq, R's at Q B 5th and Q R 8th, Bs at Q Kt 3d and 4th, Kt at K Kt 8th, P at Q R 6th.

Black: K at Q 3d, Q at K Kt 3d, R at K R 4th, Bs at K B 5th and K sq; P's at K Kt 2d, K B 4th, K 5th, and Q 3d.

White plays first, and mates in three moves.

GREAT MATCH AT CHESS IN THE UNITED STATES, FOR ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

THE amateurs of the Royal game will be gratified to learn that the preliminaries for a grand encounter between Mr. C. H. Stanley, the English player, who so distinguished himself in the celebrated contest at New Orleans in 1846, and Mr. J. H. T., of Louisville, Kentucky, have been definitively settled. As far as we at present are informed, the terms agreed on are, that the match shall take place at Washington, and commence on the 11th of February. The winner of the first eleven games to be conqueror, and entitled to the stakes of 500 dollars on each side. To avoid the tedious too often complained of in what are called the close games, it is stipulated that both players on the first move shall open by advancing the K's Pawn to his K's 4th sq.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

In the House of Lords Lord Essex will propose, and Lord Methuen second, the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech. It is understood that her Majesty will not open Parliament in person.

The late Sir C. Forbes has left £500 in aid of the Asylum for Idiots.

Nearly 1000 Southdown ewes were last week sold by auction at Blenheim Park, by Mr. G. W. Salter, for the Duke of Marlborough; and, although it has been stated that farming stock is valueless, they averaged £2 5s. each.

It is important, at this period, to know that by heating iron-filings, rough emery powder, &c., on a shovel over the fire, and then gently standing upon the same, so as to imbue the grains into gutta percha soles, a roughness of surface will be produced which will afford the utmost protection, even on the most slippery roads.

There is now living at Strasburgh a woman named Barbe K—, a native of Wurzburg, who was born on the 1st of January, 1749, and has consequently entered her 102d year. She married at the age of 22, and became a widow at 50. She is the grandmother of 37 children, and great-grandmother of 20, all living. This wonderful woman enjoys robust health, she reads without spectacles, and possesses all her intellectual faculties.

The Electric Telegraph Company has now laid down wires by which the transmission of messages from the branch office at Charing-cross direct to all parts of the kingdom can be effected at any hour during the day or night. This arrangement, from the proximity of the office to the Houses of Parliament, law courts, &c., will increase the rapidity of telegraphic communications, both public and private, from the west end of the metropolis.

On Thursday morning week, as a waggon, laden with coals, and drawn by three horses, was waiting for passage at the Bobbers Mill Gate whilst the great up-train of coal waggons to Manfield passed by, the middle animal of the team became so much alarmed, though without displaying any extraordinary violence of manner, that before the whole train, which consisted of upwards of 30 carriages, had passed by, he dropped down and instantly expired.

The last accounts from India mention that the brig *Thomas Metcalfe* has been driven on shore at Madras, and wrecked.

At Mantua, Verona, and Venice it is stated that several individuals belonging to the upper classes of society have been arrested by the Austrian authorities.

At Rome the Minister of the Interior has authorized banquets during the Carnival. It is likewise permitted to wear costumes, with the exception of ecclesiastical dresses or military uniforms; but masks are prohibited.

At Naples, the King, being much pleased with the steam-engine manufactured for the war corvette *Il Maseno*, has just decorated the English engineer, Clark, with the Cross of the Royal Order of Francis I.

A decree granting a full pardon for all offences committed by the National Guard, of Turin, up to the 16th inst., has been published.

In virtue of a Royal order, the port of Cardenas was placed on the same footing with respect to general commerce, from the 1st of January, 1850, as the ports of Havannah and the other open ports of the Island of Cuba.

The Parliamentary Protectionist party is actively engaged in preparation for the approaching sessional campaign. It is generally thought they will move an amendment to the Address.

The disposition of the Liverpool town council, in regard to the question of rating the docks, was considered to be evinced on Saturday, when they nominated Mr. Littledale, a rater, as chairman, and Mr. Harbord, also a rater, as a member of the dock committee.

A Liverpool merchant, who purchased £5000 worth of American flour, at 22s. per barrel, sent the whole out to California, where it proved an excellent venture. The barrels sold at 86s. each, and he cleared £10,000 by the transaction.

From Madeira, advices to the 2d instant state that the obnoxious quarantine regulations which had previously been so injurious to the interests of the place, and annoying to the trade touching at the island, had been re-established.

Lord Keane has nominated the Rev. Augustus James Tharp, Vicar of Chippenham, Cambridgeshire, to the office of domestic chaplain to his lordship.

A proposition is before the French Assembly to increase the pay of the petty officers of the French marine 2d. per day.

Messrs. Overend, Gurney, and Co., on Friday, week, subscribed the munificent sum of £50 towards the funds of the Leicester-square Soup Kitchen.

The French Admiralty have issued an order to the effect that the officers and seamen of the French navy, as well as the employees connected with the civil department of the navy, are not to wear those "ornaments" to the human face, the moustache and imperial. They may, however, wear the beard *en collier*.

To meet the pressure on agriculture by the abolition of the duty on corn, Rear-Admiral Deans Duddas, C.B., M.P., has announced his intention of throwing back 10 per cent on his rents; and at his rent audit, held a few days since at Middleton Stoney, the Earl of Jersey caused 10 per cent. on his tenants' rentals to be returned to them.

On the 28th of December last a gentleman called at Messrs. Hallett and Co.'s, the bankers to the Western Dispensary, of Charles-street, Westminster, and left £30, as the gift of an unknown governor, in aid of the impoverished funds of that charity, being the second donation paid in the past year under exactly similar circumstances.

Times are changed in Turkey. The High Criminal Court of Constantinople has been investigating the charges of cruelty brought against Hassan Haki Pasha, Governor of Konieh. He had inflicted the punishment of bastinado on the Vice-Governor of Van, in consequence of which he died, after lingering three days. The process was instituted by the Criminal Court by command of the Sultan. Hassan Haki has been sentenced to deprivation of his office, and five years' hard labour in Tokah.

A decree of the Minister of Finance at Vienna, dated January 11, makes known that the income-tax is to be introduced into all the provinces of the Austrian Empire, with the exception of Hungary, Transylvania, Croatia, Slavonia, the Nogvodina, Dalmatia, and the Lombardo-Venetian kingdoms.

The Right Rev. Charles, Bishop of Melbourne, completed the visitation of his extensive diocese on the 11th of May last. On the 30th he held a confirmation at Geelong, at which twenty candidates attended; and an ordination, when Mr. Bean was ordained priest, and Mr. Bloomfield deacon.

The Rev. Mr. Sewell, in his sermon at the Royal Chapel at Whitehall, on Sunday, announced that no judgment by any human authority could decide the question (in the Gorham case), and that it could only be settled by a divinely appointed ecclesiastical authority.

Sir William Hartopp, Bart., of Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, has recently, at his own expense, placed three beautiful stained glass windows in the chancel of Wilsnet Church, of which he is the patron. This, with the great improvements made during the incumbency of the present vicar, renders it one of the neatest village churches in the county of Suffolk.

Lord Lytton, Lord-Lieutenant of Worcestershire, has contributed £10 towards erecting a memorial window in Worcester Cathedral, in honour of the late Queen Adelaide, and has issued a letter on the subject, strongly recommending the proposal to public notice.

Madame Kossuth has escaped from Hungary, and reached Belgrade on her way to join her husband at Shumla.

A letter from Geneva of the 16th inst. announces the death of the Duke of Visconti, a descendant of the ancient Dukes of Milan. He was aide-de-camp to the late King Charles Albert during his last campaign in Italy.

Another capture of smugglers (the second within the last few weeks) was made early on Monday morning off Southsea Beach, where a wherry with three men and 150 gallons of foreign brandy was captured by Lieut. T. B. Clarke and a party of men from Stokes Day station.

The new House of Commons will not be ready for the members until after the Easter recess. The admission of the public to view the House of Lords will recommence on Saturday, the 2d of February, by tickets, to be obtained at the Chamberlain's office on the 30th inst.

In consequence of the tenantry under the Right Hon. Lord John Scott, complaining of the damage done by the game to their crops, &c., his Lordship had destroyed the whole of his extensive preserves in Warwickshire, dismissed his keeper, and given directions to the tenants to keep the game down by shooting all that they see on the land in their occupation.

A fellow, who had been in the habit of cutting the telegraph wires on the arrival of the English steamers at Halifax (United States), has been apprehended near St. John's, New Brunswick. He was taken in the very act, and is quite careless as to consequences, as he says he shall receive £300 or £400 a year while in gaol. He is said to have been the agent of certain cotton and flour speculators.

The Rev. W. Hamner, who formerly held the Curacy of Tidcombe Porton, Tiverton, Devon, under the Rev. W. Rayer, has gone over to the Church of Rome. The Rev. Ambrose Steward, formerly of St. John's College, Cambridge, has also succeeded; and, with his wife, was recently received into the Romish Church, by the priest of Stoke Chapel, near Ipswich.

Monday last having been the anniversary of the beheading of Louis XVI., the service for the dead was performed in several of the churches of Paris. The Socialist banquets announced for this day did not take place.

Accounts from Rome of the 5th inst. announce, that, on the previous day, Cardinal Patrizi, Vicar-General of the Pope, repaired to the church of the Novitiate of the Holy Heart, at the foot of Mount Janiculum, to receive the atonement of Mrs. Helen Cavendish, a relative of the Duke of Devonshire, who embraced the Catholic faith. After the ceremony the Cardinal administered to her the sacrament of confirmation. Princess Borghese acted as godmother to the new convert.

The damage done in the south of France by the present extraordinarily severe winter is enormous. The citron trees are entirely destroyed, and the orange trees have suffered severely. Great apprehensions are now entertained for the olive trees in Provence, where the cold is unprecedented for that country.

The actuary, Mr. John Johnson, and sub-actuary, Mr. William Johnson, of the St. Helens Savings-bank, are now under arrest for felony and conspiracy. The sub-actuary was taken on Sunday evening, at the inn which he usually frequents. The actuary was arrested on Monday morning.



LAUNCH OF THE "EARL OF HARDWICKE," WHALING SHIP, AT COWES.

THE SOUTHERN WHALE-FISHERY COMPANY'S SHIP, "THE EARL OF HARDWICKE."

THE annexed Engraving represents the launch at Cowes, on the 16th inst., of a fine barque, measuring about 256 tons O. M., built for the Southern Whale-Fishery Company, by Messrs. Thomas and John White, the well-known ship-builders of the above-mentioned place. The ship has been named the *Earl of Hardwicke*, in compliment to the Governor of the Company; while another ship of a similar tonnage, built for the same Company by Messrs. W. Moore and Son, of Plymouth, and also just launched there, has been named the *Sir James Ross*. Both these vessels are being fitted with all despatch, and will be sent direct to the Company's station at Auckland Island, in order to prosecute the Whale Fishery from thence; in which pursuit they will have been preceded by the whaling-ships which the Company sent out in August last, conveying the preliminary expedition.

We understand that the Southern Whale-Fishery Company has other vessels in progress of construction, which will shortly be ready to follow in succession the *Earl of Hardwicke* and the *Sir James Ross*.

LOSS OF THE BRIG "VINE," OF BRISTOL, AT WHITBY.

AN exciting scene occurred at Whitby on Monday, the 14th inst., when the brig *Vine*, of Bristol, laden with oats, sprung a leak off the pier, and, either through ignorance of the time of high-water or a want of knowledge of the port he was about to enter, the master attempted to take the harbour about one o'clock P.M., the tide then being very little past ebb, when the vessel, as a matter of course, struck upon the sands, about 200 yards from the entrance to the harbour. The crew left the vessel by the life-boat, except the master, Captain John Honey, who, we understand, is part owner, who refused to leave the vessel. As the tide rose, the wind, which was blowing strong from the S.E., increased to a complete gale, and the sea ran very heavily, which soon stove in one side of the vessel and dismasted her. The master still stuck to the vessel, and the storm increased, the

waves breaking over her most furiously. The piers were now crowded with anxious spectators, expecting every moment to see the brig dashed to pieces. Meanwhile, the life-boat had been manned and sent to the vessel three times, and endeavours made to persuade the master if he valued his life to leave the wreck, but in vain; he expressed his determination to "stick to her as long as a timber remained." But the breakers became so fearfully heavy, that, when the fourth time the boat went to the rescue (about five o'clock P.M.), he was glad to avail himself of the assistance; and, after four or five unsuccessful attempts to near the wreck, the master was got into the boat in an exhausted and almost lifeless state. On reaching the shore, another and unexpected peril awaited him. The crowd was so anxious to get a sight of a man who appeared to value life so little, that it was with the greatest difficulty he could be got to a house of refuge without injury, several persons being thrown down in the crowd and trampled on. Whilst this scene was enacting, another, of a more amusing character, was being performed up the harbour. The sea having washed out the greatest part of the cargo (oats) it drifted up the harbour with the tide, when the surface was literally covered with the grain, and dozens of boats were engaged skimming the water with baskets and other articles that would hold the grain and let off the water, so as to secure many a treat for the swine of the poor fishermen. It is said the vessel is uninsured; and one reason assigned for the extraordinary conduct of the master is, that he, being the principal owner, had got a crotch in his head that if he left the wreck it would be claimed as a derelict.

THE LICENSE OF LIBERTY IN THE MODEL REPUBLIC.—The ruffianly gangs that infest the neighbourhood of Philadelphia have renewed their horrid and murderous outrages. On New Year's night a party of "rowdies" broke into a private house, and on being compelled to leave they nearly killed Mr. Hornkeith, the owner, with bowie-knives, and shot his son dead, in the presence of his outraged family. The desperadoes—quite a mob of them—forced an entrance into the dwelling after a festal supper, and insisted upon the family providing a meal for them, which could not be done. The result of this attempted enforcement of mob tyranny was bloodshed and barbarous murder. On the following Thursday night, some men, supposed to be a portion of the same gang, shot at the conductor of the Baltimore mail-cart, and nearly felled him with a bludgeon, their object being doubtless to murder him and rob the mail, on its way to the Baltimore and Philadelphia cars at Gray's Ferry, a passage and bridge over the Schnykill, in the suburbs of Philadelphia.

CURIOSITIES.—XII.

THE BIBLE USED BY KING CHARLES I. ON THE SCAFFOLD, ON THE DAY OF HIS MARTYRDOM, JANUARY 30, 1648.

IN Smith's "Collectanea Antiqua" is a representation of the Bible traditionally said to have been used by Charles I. just previous to his death; and, as the

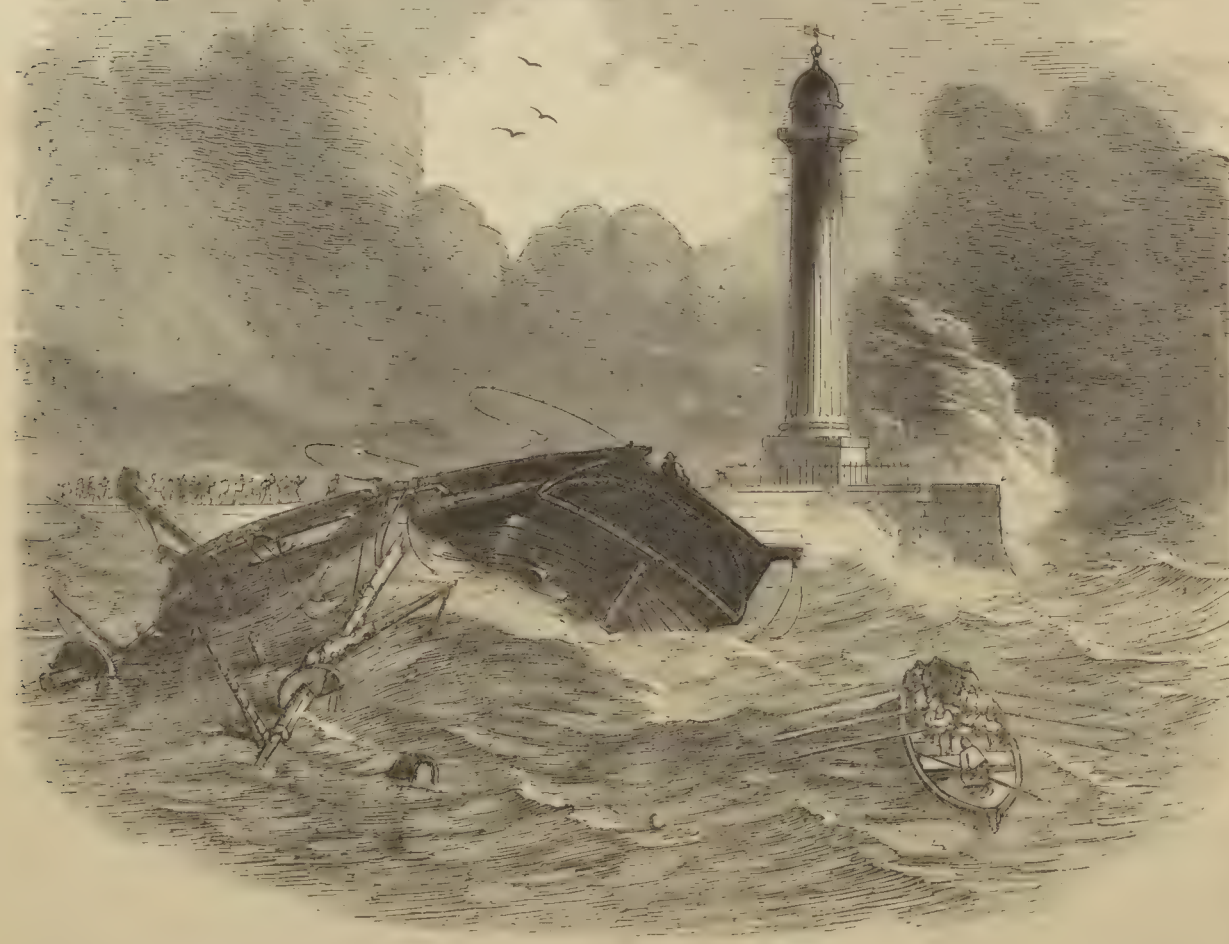


THE BIBLE USED BY CHARLES I.

relic is of great interest, we have copied the Engraving, and subjoin the description from the work referred to:—

"There is so much external evidence of the genuineness of this very beautiful and interesting relic, that no doubt can exist as to its perfect authenticity; though the circumstance of the King having a Bible with him on the scaffold, and presenting it to Dr. Juxon, is not mentioned in any contemporaneous account of his death. The only notice of such a volume, as a dying gift, appears to be that recorded by Sir Thomas Herbert, in his narrative, which forms a part of the 'Memoirs of the Last Two Years of the Reign of that unparalleled Prince, of ever-blessed memory, King Charles I.' London, 1702; 8vo, p. 129; in the following passage:—'The King thereupon gave him his hand to kiss, having the day before been graciously pleased, under his Royal hand, to give him a certificate that the said Mr. Herbert was not imposed upon him, but by his Majesty made choice of to attend him in his bedchamber, and had served him with faithfulness and loyal affection. His Majesty also delivered him his Bible, in the margin whereof he had, with his own hand, written many annotations and quotations, and charged him to give it to the Prince so soon as he returned.' That this might be the book represented in the above Engraving, is rendered extremely probable, by admitting that the King would be naturally anxious that his son should possess that very copy of the Scriptures which had been provided for himself when he was Prince of Wales. It will be observed that the cover of the volume is decorated with the badge of the Principality within the Garter, surmounted by a Royal coronet in silver gilt, enclosed by an embroidered border: the initials C.P., apparently improperly altered to an R., and the badges of the Rose and Thistle upon a ground of blue velvet; and the book was, therefore, bound between the death of Prince Henry, in 1612, and the accession of Charles to the throne, in 1625, when such a coronet would be no longer used by him. If the Bible here represented were that referred to by Herbert, the circumstance of Bishop Juxon becoming the possessor of it might be accounted for by supposing that it was placed in his hands to be transmitted to Charles II., with the George of the Order of the Garter belonging to the late King, well known to have been given to that prelate upon the scaffold. This volume is in the possession of Robert Skene, Esq., of Rubislaw."

BRITISH ORPHAN ASYLUM, CLAPHAM RISE.—The annual meeting of the promoters of this charity took place on Monday, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, for the purpose of receiving the report for the past year, and for the election of children; the Lord Mayor in the chair. The report stated that the directors desired to acknowledge, with heartfelt gratitude, the fact that during the prevalence of the cholera the children had been preserved from that fatal disease. This fact might be regarded as a proof of the sanitary regulations of the Institution. On the 1st of Jan., 1849, there were 57 boys and 34 girls in the asylum. During the year 19 had been admitted, and 15 had left; so that on the 31st of December last there were 95 children in the institution. Since the last report there had been a considerable increase of accommodation, and various important arrangements had become necessary, in order to promote the greater healthiness of the institution. This had been accomplished at an outlay of £724 2s. 11d. At the annual dinner, which took place in the month of May last, £700 was collected, and a further sum of £157 6s. was raised by two sermons which had been preached in the course of the year. The directors deplored the loss of the "excellent and beloved Queen Dowager," who had been a donor to the institution to the amount of ten guineas annually. There were thirty-seven candidates at the present election, of whom eight were admitted. The financial statement showed that the receipts (including life subscriptions, &c.) amounted to £2602 18s. 5d., the expenditure to £2391 16s. 8d., leaving a balance of £211 1s. 9d. The report having been adopted, the names of the successful candidates were announced.



LOSS OF THE BRIG "VINE," OF BRISTOL, AT WHITBY.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

ACCORDING to papers received from the Cape of Good Hope to the 15th of November, 1849, the "Anti-Convict Association" meetings continued to be held in the colony; and at them resolutions invariably were passed condemnatory of the conduct of the local Government, and the determination of Sir H. Smith, the Governor, to detain the convicts in Simon's Bay. The inhabitants of the outlying districts fully concurred in the policy of the anti-convict party at Cape Town.

The Cape Frontier Times says:—
"His Excellency's determination to keep the *Neptune* in the colonial waters until the Colonial Minister shall decide whether her 300 convicts shall be landed in the colony, or disposed of in some other way, is, in fact, breaking up society at the Cape, and disorganizing it in the country districts; and unless relief be at hand, the consequence may yet be disastrous.

"The continued suspension of all business transactions between the people and the Government, pending the final disposal of the *Neptune's* cargo, finds a full justification in the bad faith and tyrannical temper of the Colonial Minister. If the opposition of the colonists to the convict scheme had been manifested with less severity, this colony, within twenty-four hours after the arrival of the *Neptune*, would have been a penal colony, not merely on paper, but in reality and in fact; and if the opposition to the detention of the *Neptune* were less vigorous than it is, the probability of the eventual location of her convicts at the Cape would be immeasurably increased. Earl Grey will naturally and justly calculate the strength of the resistance which he would have to encounter if he ordered the convicts to be landed, according to the degree of opposition which the bare detention of the ship in Simon's Bay has excited; and having the fear of Parliament before his eyes, he will count the cost before, thus forewarned, he enters upon the contest."

An interesting testimonial of the gratitude of the colonists is about to be presented to a member of the House of Commons for the distinguished part he has taken in the question. This memorial is a handsome table centre-piece, of silver, manufactured by Mr. Smith, of Duke-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields. The design is very characteristic: the group consists of an oak, the emblem of resistance; below are figures of Justice, and a lamb; with a medallion of a ship in full sail. One side of the decorated base bears the following inscription:—



PLATE FOR PRESENTATION TO C. B. ADDERLEY, ESQ., M.P., BY THE MUNICIPALITY OF CAPE TOWN.

"Presented by the municipality of the city of Cape Town, in South Africa, to CHAS. BOWYER ADDERLEY, ESQ., M.P., in testimony of their high estimation of the distinguished and generous services rendered by him in the Commons House of Parliament, on the 27th day of March, 1849, in advocating the cause of the Cape colonists against the measure projected by Government of introducing convicts into that settlement."

The plate, we understand, will be presented to Mr. Adderley next week.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES WINDING-UP ACTS.—RESOLUTIONS OF THE MASTERS.—The following resolutions, signed by all the masters, have been promulgated:—1. That every contributory, or alleged contributory, by whom or on whose behalf a proposal for the appointment of an official manager shall be brought into the master's office, shall be required to enter an appearance, specifying the number of shares, or parts of shares, of which he shall allege or admit himself to be the proprietor or holder. 2. That, on the proposal of sureties for any official manager, an affidavit shall be made, stating whether he is surety in any other matter under the Winding-up Acts, and if so, in what amount and in what other matters, and to what amount in each matter and for whom, and deposing that he can justify in the amount then required of him, and in an amount sufficient to cover his just debts and all liabilities in such matters. 3. That, whereas it is the duty of the official manager himself to obtain possession of the books of the company, to make out and lay before the master a list of contributories; to prepare, send, and serve all notices to contributories, or alleged contributories, and other persons; to prepare and cause to be inserted all advertisements; to examine, investigate, and make out the accounts of the company, and of the members and contributors respectively; to communicate with the contributories and with the debtors and creditors of the company; to get in, realise, and receive the property and assets of the company, and the calls from time to time ordered by the master to be paid by the contributories, and to ascertain and discharge the liabilities of the company. No costs shall be allowed to any solicitor of the official manager for or in respect of any such matters, unless the master shall have given his previous sanction to the official manager to employ the solicitor in respect thereof, or shall be subsequently satisfied that there are special grounds to justify such appointment in such particular cases: provided always, that this regulation shall not necessarily apply to such costs incurred previous to the first day of January as the master shall think reasonable. 4. That no costs or expenses shall be allowed for or in respect of any journey made by the official manager, or by any person employed by him, to a greater distance than twenty miles from the General Post-office, London, unless the master shall have previously authorised such journey; and as to any journey within twenty miles, the master shall determine whether any costs, and what costs and expenses, shall be allowed in respect thereof. 5. That in all cases in which costs shall be allowed and directed by the master to be taxed, such costs shall be taxed as between party and party, unless the master shall, under special circumstances, direct the same to be taxed upon any different principle. 6. That, in the taxation of costs, the principle of payment by hourly warrants in the master's office shall be disregarded; and the solicitors' fees, and, in cases where the master is attended by counsel, the fees of such counsel, shall be regulated upon the same principle as if the proceedings took place before one of the Courts of Chancery; and, in respect of the costs of the solicitor for the official manager, the Master may give any special directions relating thereto as he may think just. 7. That the solicitor of the official manager shall not act as solicitor for any other party whatsoever, in any contest between such party and the official manager. 8. That nothing in these regulations contained shall be construed to limit or affect the power of the Master to award a single sum or fee for any costs awarded by him, or otherwise to settle the principle and scale of the fees upon or according to which such costs in such cases shall be ascertained and settled, or any other power vested in the Master.



PARIS FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

THE commencement of the season in which balls are given has excited the Parisian salons with charming and elegant toilettes. The ball-dresses are particularly light, and are nearly all made of tulle, with several skirts, one over the other. Each skirt is trimmed with one or more *rouleaux* of satin, with *ruches*, or with *chenille*, gathered up at the side by a bouquet of flowers. The bodies continue pointed, but the points are less sharp; they are trimmed with folds of tulle, ornamented with *ruches* or *chenille* to match the trimming of the skirts. Bows of ribbon, with very short ends, are placed on the sleeves, which are made of puffs of tulle. A bouquet of the same flowers as those of the dress is fixed in the centre of the *corsage*. Dresses of crape, of silver gauze, and tulle embroidered in floss silk, are also very elegant.

There never was a time when silken materials were so rich and splendid as at present. *Damas*, with large waterings, makes magnificent evening dresses for married ladies; they are trimmed with old lace, or Honiton, and in the centre of the bows of ribbons which adorn the sides of the dress are placed diamonds or other gems. *Lace berthes* are always worn, both with these rich stuffs and velvet. For morning visits there is very little alteration in the make of the dresses; the bodies are still plain and high, and the skirts very full. As to the trimmings, the severity of the season leads ladies to give a preference to fur; and nothing is more *commode et fait* for the afternoon than a velvet dress trimmed with Zibeline sable. Furs are also employed as cloaks, but this is too unbecoming a fashion to be adopted by any person of taste; besides which, these cloaks are very heavy and inconvenient.

Bonnets retain their round and open form. Very pretty *capotes* are made of dark satin, the edge and curtain of which are trimmed with *chenille*, which is both simple and becoming.

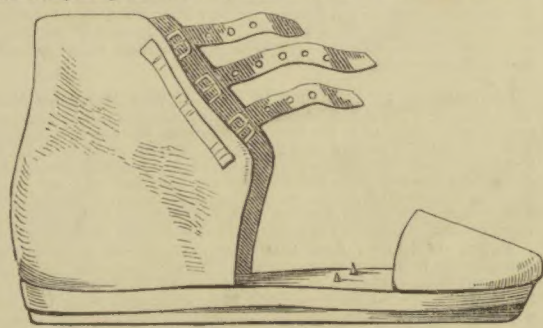
Coffures for dinners and concerts are dazzling to the eye, from the gold-embroidered gauze and gems of which they are composed. Turbans are much worn, and are fastened in the front by an *aigrette* of diamonds, or a jewelled flower. Jewels are more fashionable than ever: diamonds, rubies, emeralds, are apparently scattered over the dresses, for each bow of ribbon sparkles with a gem. Natural flowers have a decided advantage over artificial ones; and it is in very good taste to place in the hair one of those beautiful camellias, which retain their freshness even in the heat of a ball-room. Bouquets for the hand are made larger than ever: a *toilette* without a bouquet is hardly complete; and, to give the stamp of real elegance, it should be formed of the rarest flowers which the conservatory can produce.

GERMAN EMIGRATION.—A gentleman, a native of Germany, but at present resident in England, visited Hull a few days ago, for the purpose of making arrangements for the transport of many thousands of emigrants during the approaching spring and summer, who are intending to leave the kingdoms of Hanover, Wirtemberg, Bavaria, and Prussia, the Grand Duchy of Saxony, and other parts of Germany, to settle in the United States of North America, and elsewhere. A very large proportion of the intending emigrants purpose leaving the land of their birth on account of their inability there to find the means of adequate support, whilst others seek the change chiefly from the longing which they have for greater liberty than they can enjoy under their native rulers and old-established governments. Those Governments appear not insensible to the necessity of easing their respective countries of a portion of the population, for several of them have announced their intention to relinquish entirely the claim to the ten per cent. duty formerly levied upon all property which emigrants took out of their respective countries, and also to allow the voluntary exiles to pass for half fare over the Government railways. The King of Hanover and the Duke of Saxony are amongst the number. We understand that there are two companies who have undertaken to conduct this extensive emigration. Both proceed on pretty much of the same plan, bringing the ex-patriots from innumerable places scattered over the continent of Europe, forming them into a continued stream by the ordinary passage-boats on the Rhine, and by other conveyances by land and water, collecting them in Hamburg as a centre, and there shipping them by the Hull steamers, in groups or companies of about 200 or upwards. The steamers will depart punctually on their appointed days, and usually make their passages with great regularity. Immediately on their arrival in Hull, they will be placed under the care of the agent of the emigration company, whose duty it will be to see that they are all comfortably attended to, and forwarded without delay by railway to Liverpool, where another agent of the company will be in readiness to receive them, and attend to the re-shipment of themselves and their luggage. One of the companies, we understand, confines its attention to emigration to the United States; the other has a wider range, including the states of South America and Australia. It was on behalf of the latter company that the visit we have alluded to was made to Hull; interviews were held with the proprietors of the respective steam-ships, and an arrangement entered into by which about 300 emigrants will be forwarded here in the first steamer from Hamburg on the breaking up of the ice.—*Eastern Counties Herald*.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has received from "A. B." £5, in payment of "a balance of unpaid assessed taxes due to Government." He has paid over the amount to the Receiver-General of Inland Revenue.

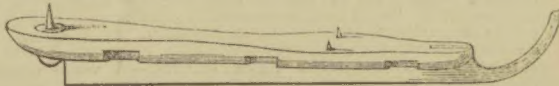
IMPROVED SKATES.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent with the annexed design for an improvement in Skates, which has the advantage of ensuring firmness, without the uncomfortable pressure which attends the use of straps. The only object generally sought for in skates is, that they shall be firmly fastened to the boot; it being forgotten, at the same time, that, unless the boot be also secured to the foot, the skate might as well be loose upon the boot; whilst the ankle, which in figure skating is so severely taxed, is left altogether unsupported. The chief advantages, therefore, of this skate are, that both the skate and the boot are secured to the foot, and the ankle at the same time firmly sustained. The pressure of the fastenings is also distributed over a large surface, so as entirely to relieve the foot of cramp or uncomfortable feeling. The Engraving will sufficiently explain the fastening at the heel. The toe-piece is similar to those which have been in use some years. A provision is made in this skate for adjusting it to differently sized boots as it is screwed between a brass



IMPROVED SKATE.

plate and the wood, and slits cut in the leather for the screws. It may, therefore, be drawn out or pushed beneath the plate until it fits the boot, and afterwards screwed tight. This arrangement being made, it will not require alteration, as the skate may be put on without interfering with it. The fastening at the heel is secured to the wood by a similar plate; and the wood is cut down at the toe and heel to let the plates level with the other part. There is no spike or screw for the heel; but two or three pins are provided, similar to those in the toe of ordinary skates; and the wood of these is more the shape of the boot, being broader at the toe and instep. The skate, from being so easy, and not requiring the boots to be pierced, is particularly suitable for ladies.



THE DUTCH OR FEN SKATE.

For skating long distances, we recommend the use of the Fen, or Dutch skate. This form of patten is also decidedly preferable for learners. It is almost to be wondered that any one can learn with the bow-skate, which was originally only intended to cut figures on a small circle of ice. The iron of the Fen-skate is in a straight line, but thinner towards the toe. This description of skate is used by the fast runners and competitors for prizes on the ice; a stirring scene of which, in Lincolnshire, we engraved in our Journal of last week.

From the departments of France there are accounts of intense severity of weather, particularly in the Pyrenees, the Haute Garonne, Lyons, Lille, Dieppe, and other parts. Several dead bodies were found along the roads: in one place there was a man wrapped up in his cloak, lying on the ground and frozen to death; in another a traveller also dead, and his body in a sitting posture; and in a third a woman standing in the snow up to her middle, her hands clasped and raised as if in the act of recommending her soul to Heaven—she also was a corpse.

Six English horses were last week landed at Ostend, and have since been taken on through Germany by railroad. They will then embark on the Danube, and continue their journey to Cairo to take part in the trial of speed and stamina between English horses and those belonging to the Pasha of Egypt.

COUNTRY NEWS.

AGRICULTURAL PROTECTION.

The Protectionist meetings find little favour in the eyes of the town art is an and humbler classes generally, according to the reported accounts in the daily papers.

On Saturday Mr. Robert Gibson, the High Sheriff of Berkshire, convened, in the words of the requisition, the "electors, ratepayers, and inhabitants of the county of Berks," for the purpose of taking into consideration the present depressed condition of the agricultural and trading interests, consequent upon the adoption of Free Trade; and of determining upon an address to her Majesty praying for the dissolution of the present Parliament, or of such other measures of redress as the meeting shall deem expedient. The Town Hall, capacious enough to accommodate 1500 persons without inconvenient pressure, was the place of meetings. With the view of guarding against attempts at obstruction of the proceedings, some policemen were stationed inside, and near the chair, for the purpose also of guarding against the contingency of a rush in that direction. A party of special constables kept a thoroughfare in the streets for those who were entitled to attend the meeting: but all these precautions were of no avail. The Town Hall is fitted up at the one end with elevated benches and seats, and all the other appliances suitable for the administration of justice. At the other end there is a platform, raised about six feet from the floor. The intermediate space was entirely free: and if it be imagined that the parties who occupied the elevated positions at both ends were spectators, and those who filled the intermediate space were actively engaged in fighting, and "tearing," and swearing and yelling, an idea may be formed of the excitement which prevailed in that part of the hall during the early part of the proceedings, which were in other respects of the ordinary character of those meetings.

At CROYDON, on the same day, there was a similar scene, on the occasion of a meeting assembled at the Town Hall, for the purpose of considering the necessity for the re-enactment of the Corn and Navigation Laws. Amongst the principal persons present were the Earl Stanhope and Mr. George F. Young. The meeting was for the most part composed of tenant-farmers and shopkeepers, amongst whom were many objectors to the propositions under discussion. Hisses, groans, and yells were kept up with increasing vigour throughout the whole of the speeches of those gentlemen who advocated a return to the old principle of Protection; and so hopeless was all attempt to gain a hearing, that Lord Stanhope, after in vain trying to appease the angry crowd, advised the chairman to dissolve the meeting, which was accordingly done, amidst derisive cheers from the Free-Traders.

IN LEICESTERSHIRE the state of things was little better. On Monday, when a meeting of the farmers of the southern extremity of the county was held at Hinckley, a considerable market-town, at which there is a large manufacture of silk and cotton hose, the Town-hall was filled with farmers and stocking-weavers; and, as the business proceeded, much interruption was given to the speakers, and at last, to one of the resolutions, which was seconded by Mr. Newdegate, M.P., an amendment was moved by Mr. Pratt, a stocking-maker, to the effect that Protection would be injurious to the town and district, and that the meeting repudiated the idea of petitioning for it. Eno, h Bond seconded the amendment. The farmers looked in a wrong direction for relief; they talked of the malt-tax, but if Cobden were Prime Minister he would remove £15,000,000 of taxes—the malt-tax, and other taxes would then be taken off, not only to the relief of the farmer, but of the whole community. (Cheers.) When corn was £5 a quarter, did the agricultural labourer get any more? ("Yes, yes," and counter cries of "No, no.") In Northamptonshire, when wheat was 80s. a quarter, the labourers only had 7s. a week. (It's false.) It was to the interest of the stocking-maker to oppose any renewal of Protection, which meant empty bellies for the operatives and labourers, ruin to tenant-farmers, and wealth to the great landowners. (Cheers.) The chairman, before putting the question, explained that the meeting was not, in its usual sense, a public one, upon which there arose a noisy and confused debate upon that point. Mr. Barker read the notice which had been placarded, containing the words "public meeting;" but, on the other side, it was contended that the words which followed, "of those interested in the present depressed state of agriculture," limited the meaning of the word "public." At length the question was put, and a small majority appearing in favour of the amendment, the chairman dissolved the meeting, an event hailed with continued rounds of applause by the delighted Free-traders of Hinckley.

In York there was a numerous and influential meeting held on Wednesday. There were present the Duke of Cleveland, the Earl of Harewood, Lord Hawke, the Earl of Tyrconnel, the Hon. Octavius Duncombe, M.P.; the Hon. E. Lascelles, the Hon. A. Duncombe, M.P.; E. S. Cayley, Esq., M.P.; J. S. Crompton, J. B. Ferrand, S. Thompson, R. Denison, J. G. Smyth, M.P., G. Legard, W. Rutson, Esqrs., and other noblemen and gentlemen. The Earl of Harewood was in the chair.

In various other localities meetings have been held with better success. On Tuesday there was one of the farmers and landlords of South Nottinghamshire, at Bingham. Those of Kent met on the same day at Edenbridge, Earl Stanhope in the chair, and agreed to an address to the Queen to dissolve the present Parliament.

FREE-TRADE MEETING AT SHEFFIELD.

Mr. Cobden paid his constituents residing at Sheffield and its vicinity a visit on Tuesday, and was received with quite an ovation.

In the evening there was a meeting held in the saloon of the Music-Hall, which is capable of holding 2000 persons. It was quite crowded, notwithstanding that an admission fee was charged at the doors, to prevent too great a throng. The chair was taken by E. Smith, Esq., of Fir Vale, and the following resolutions were agreed to, viz:—

That this meeting consider it to be one of the most important duties of the House of Commons to enforce the strictest economy in the public expenditure, so as to reduce the oppressive burden of taxation as far as possible; and that the efforts of the financial reformers in Parliament to obtain such reduction deserve the energetic support of the nation.

That, in the judgment of this meeting, a large extension of the elective franchise is desirable, and might, with true wisdom, be granted by the Legislature; and that, meanwhile, well-constructed and prudently managed societies for facilitating the purchase by the industrious classes of forty-shilling freeholds in land or buildings, are likely to be attended with great advantage, both social and political, to the country.

Mr. Cobden then, in a lengthened speech of much ability, developed his well-known sentiments on Free-Trade, Protection, Financial and Parliamentary Reform, &c.; and the proceedings terminated with a resolution, which was carried with acclamation, expressive of the thanks of the meeting and their high sense of the merit of the hon. member.

The next morning (Wednesday) the hon. gentleman was received at a public breakfast in the Cutlers' Hall. Nearly two hundred ladies and gentlemen sat down, comprising the *déité* of the gentry, merchants, manufacturers, and other traders of Sheffield and its neighbourhood. Thomas Birks, Esq., the Mayor of the borough, presided; Mr. Cobden and Mr. T. A. Ward sat on the right of the chair; Mr. Alderman Willey and Mr. Richard Solly were on the left. Several other leading merchants and some ladies also had seats at the principal table. Several speeches were delivered on the occasion.

DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF THE SEAT OF THE DUKE OF MONTROSE.—On Monday night last, Buchanan House, in the parish of Buchanan, Stirlingshire, the Scottish seat of the Duke of Montrose, was totally destroyed by fire. The fire is believed to have been accidental. The ducal mansion was a fine old house, which originally belonged to the once potent family of Buchanan. It was delightfully situated in the neighbourhood of Loch Lomond; and what was deficient in architectural graces, was made up by the beauty of the site and grounds. The greater part of the fine furniture and historical relics are understood to have perished. The Duke and family were absent at the time of the catastrophe.

TAXES ON LIGHT, AIR, AND VENTILATION.—It has just been determined by the Berks county magistrates, in accordance with the report of the visiting justices, to entirely stop up, before the 5th of April next, a great number of the windows in the county gaol at Reading, "in order to diminish the payment of assessed taxes," it appearing that the whole of the windows in the apartments occupied by the officers, besides others, are taxed annually to no trifling amount. The visiting justices, in their report, state, very naturally, that it appears "unjust and unreasonable to subject establishments of public utility to either Government or parochial taxes." In order to lessen the annual outlay connected with this extensive criminal establishment, a number of gas-lights have just been suppressed, and much smaller burners have been substituted for those previously in use. The sum paid for gas alone, during the past year, amounted to upwards of £400.

EMIGRATION FROM LIVERPOOL.—The total emigration for the year was the extraordinary number of 153,992 persons. Of this number, 147,745 went to the United States, 4630 to British North America, 141 to the West Indies, 81 to Western Africa, 46 to the Cape of Good Hope, 13 to Hong Kong, and 673 to Australia. The whole were conveyed in 565 vessels, only 11 of which sustained damage; and but one, the *Caleb Grimsdahl*, burnt at sea, attended with loss of life. Five of them met with accident before leaving the Mersey, one off the coast of Ireland, and another off Adrossan. The passengers in these cases were forwarded in other ships.

IMPORTATION OF COTTON FROM FRANCE.—A vessel recently arrived at the port of Liverpool, from Charente, has brought 2554 bales of cotton from that French port, forming the entire cargo. This may be specially noticed as an instance of the privileges granted by the repeal of the Navigation Laws, being made available for the introduction from Europe of the productions of another quarter of the globe.

SEVEN FISHING SMACKS AND THIRTY-SEVEN FISHERMEN LOST.—Seven fine fishing smacks, whose crews numbered in the aggregate 37 men and boys, which left Hull prior to Christmas-Day last, and which should have returned a fortnight ago, have not since been heard of. It is supposed that the vessels perished during the gales of the 27th and 28th of December. The *captain* of one (the *Mary*) was picked up off Lowestoft, and brought into Hull last week. A public meeting is to be held, to consider the best way of providing for the thirteen widows and twenty-five children, rendered fatherless by this appalling calamity.

According to letters received from Italy, M. de Falloux has been attacked with a cold attended with fever; the state of his health, however, is not bad, and the sensible improvement which had taken place appears to have continued.

A vessel, just arrived from New Orleans, with a general cargo of American productions, has brought the large quantity of upwards of 5000 packages of lard, as a portion of her cargo. Another vessel, just arrived from New Orleans, has brought 329 tierces, 1197 barrels, 35 half-barrels, and 2677 other packages of the article, of American produce.

IRELAND.

ENCUMBERED ESTATES COMMISSION.—The business of this commission augments at a rapid rate. A new list of petitions for sales, thirty-two in number, was presented between the 7th and the 15th inst. A considerable portion of these petitions affect estates in the western provinces. There are three petitions on the case of Lord Oranmore, and the petitioners are relatives of the noble Lord, namely, the Hon. Mary Anne Browne, the Hon. Georgina Dorcas Browne (his Lordship's sisters), and the Rev. J. G. Browne.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The association met on Monday at Conciliation Hall. The attendance was very scanty. Mr. John O'Connell brought forward a petition in favour of tenant-right, which was adopted. The honourable gentleman then referred to the Queen's Colleges, and called upon Sir R. Kane to retract some expressions he made use of at the opening of Cork in reference to the system of education adopted in Belgium. Mr. O'Connell having referred to the late Protectionist meeting at the Rotundo, which he designated "a great monster delusion," called on the Irish Repeal members to be watchful during the coming session on the franchise, Poor-law, and Church question. The rent was £11 7s. 3d.

THE O'CONNELL FAMILY.—The following summary, correct, but of very bad taste, in its statements, of the progress and position of the family of the late Mr. O'Connell, appeared in the *Dublin Evening Mail*; and however accurate its facts, its purport demonstrates beyond doubt that O'Connell was not a place-hunter for his family:—"Time was when the founder of the house of Darrynane was wont to boast of his parliamentary progeny; and, as he counted heads, while they flew before him into the lobby upon a division, to exclaim, 'There are eight of us!' And true it was—there were eight of them. But years have made an awful scattering of the race since then. The present House of Commons contains only three of them—Maurice, John, and Morgan John, not one of whom, according to present appearances, is likely to hold a seat in another Parliament. Morgan John, the honourable member for Kerry, has been posted by the Commissioners for the sale of Incumbered Estates, as about to be sold up, among the first victims of Free Trade and the Poor-Laws. John, of Limerick (if he be in earnest), will soon retire into a private station. And the *Kerry Evening Post* now announces that the present occupant of the Abbey, Maurice, the eldest and the best, is anxious to relinquish a post which he never loved, and to serve his generation as an alderman and a country gentleman. When we consider the high position which Daniel O'Connell occupied for a long time in the political world, and remember the worship which he received, not only from the populace but from the administration, which he often saved from the displeasure of an indignant nation, it appears surprising how little has been done for his family. There are members of his tall, creatures who would never have been heard of beyond the fumes of the mug-houses in which they nursed their genius, now revelling in appointments richer than all the offices which have been bestowed upon his household. His son-in-law, Fitzsimon, got a place of curial emolument; another son-in-law, French, was made a stipendiary magistrate, and transported to Connemara, where he died; and his son Morgan held an office worth about £1200 a year, where he gives constant attendance and good service for his pay. Such, we believe, is the sum total of profits enjoyed by the O'Connell family for all the lifts they have given in the Whigs. It is no wonder their 'last rose,' feeling uncomfortable at being 'left blooming alone,' should fold himself up in his virtue, and depart from a soil so ungenerous and ungrateful. We advise the hon. and learned member for Limerick not to refuse the *ten thousand pounds*. It seems to be his last chance. The Whigs won't do anything for him—his opportunity is gone by; therefore his only chance is between the *Bar* and the *Bag*—and he has but to throw a glance into that melancholy and multitudinous tread-mill, the hall of the Four Courts, to see that if he must tramp it for his bread, it is best to begin where he will have the whole walk to himself.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.—The presidency of the Irish College at Rome, vacated by the appointment of the Rev. Dr. Cullen to the Roman Catholic Primacy, has been conferred on the Rev. Dr. Kirby, who has filled the office of Vice-President in the college for many years; and the Very Rev. Dr. Miley, of Dublin, a gentleman distinguished in the literary world, has just been appointed President of the Irish College at Paris, in the room of Dr. M'Sweeney, retired on a pension. Both of these appointments are of great importance in the Irish Roman Catholic Church.

FREE TRADE.—An aggregate meeting of the citizens of Dublin, to sustain the principles of Free-trade, has been definitively fixed to be held at the Rotundo, on Monday next. It is convened as an "open meeting to ascertain the true feelings of the public on the all important subject of Free-trade," in contradistinction to the "private meeting of the landed gentry," as the recent Protectionist demonstration is termed.

COMMITTEE OF EMANUEL HOSPITAL.—On Saturday, Mr. Abrahams, the surveyor, attended the committee of Emanuel Hospital at Guildhall, and presented a plan of the intended improvements at Westminster. The site of the hospital and the grounds attached to and belonging to the estate consists of between six and seven acres. Mr. Alderman Musgrove, the chairman of the committee, stated, that the governors would feel it their duty to dissent from the proposition to effect the sale of a portion of the estate, but, upon the full value under a compulsory sale being applied for as to the whole property, there would be no objection to come to terms. It is supposed, from the result of recent sales of property in the vicinity, that the value of the Emanuel Hospital ground is about £5000 or £6000 an acre, and that valuation is stated not to include the buildings themselves, which are very extensive. The objection to dispose merely of a part of the estate arises from the fear that the health of the inmates would be affected by the contraction of the premises. The half-yearly account of the agricultural rental of Snaide Orton, in Yorkshire, which produces about £4000 a year, was presented to the committee. It appeared from that account that all the rents due at Michaelmas last were paid, with the exception of that of one tenant, who was in arrear £52, being twenty-five per cent. less than his arrear at Lady-day.

ACCIDENT TO MR. ADDERLEY, M.P.—On Monday, the 21st, as Mr. Adderley, M.P., with the Hon. Mrs. Adderley and their family, were returning from Stoneleigh Abbey to Hants, their carriage upset, owing to the frozen state of the roads, as they were turning too quickly a sharp angle from the park into the high-road. Though the carriage was completely smashed from the violence of the fall, fortunately no one received serious injury further than a few bruises and cuts.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS FOR THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The Consol Market has not been so firm this week, prices gradually declining. This might be anticipated, from the difficulty which existed at the closing of the last Account, notwithstanding the cheapness of money. On Monday the opening price of Consols was 96½, the closing quotation 96½, the market became weak, and 96½ was the last price; still further receding on Wednesday to 96½, 3d, rallying, however, towards the close of business. On Thursday the market was quiet at 96½, 3d, which afterwards changed to 96½, 3d, the last price quoted. New Three-and-a-quarter per Cents have maintained higher relative quotations, having been done at 99, 98½, 98¼. India Bonds and Exchequer Bills still maintain their high quotations, the money required for the first payment on the new Russian loan not yet affecting these floating securities. At the close of the week, the actual bargains were quoted at—Bank Stock, 206; Reduced, 96½; Consols, 96½; New 3½ per Cent. Annuities, 98½; Long Annuities, to expire Jan., 1860, 8½; Ditto, 30 years, Jan. 5, 1860, 8½; India Stock, 268; India Bonds, £1000, 96 pm.; Ditto, under £1000, 96 pm.; Consols for Account, 96½; Exchequer Bills, £1000, June, 60 pm.; Ditto, £500, June, 58 pm.; Ditto, Small, June, 58 pm.

The holders of Mexican Bonds held a very numerous meeting on Wednesday, and came to the resolve of forming a special committee to superintend their affairs only, quite apart from those of the other South American States. An office is to be opened where the bondholders can within reasonable business hours apply for information; and a paid secretary appointed. All communications of interest are to be posted as soon as possible after receipt in the office at the Stock Exchange, and sent round to the newspapers. A meeting of the bondholders must be called every six months, and may be often convened if necessary; and measures will be taken to secure the payment of the remanet by Messrs. Schneider.

The Foreign Market has been active, Buenos Ayres and Peruvian both rapidly advancing; Buenos Ayres improved 4 per cent., and Peruvian 2 per cent. Russian also advanced, and the Scrip of the New Loan has been quoted at 4 pm. Portuguese is rather flatter. Mexican is quiet, at about last quotations. The closing registered prices of the week are—Brazilian Bonds, 88½; Ditto, Small, 88½; Buenos Ayres Bonds, 6 per Cent., 54½; Equador Bonds, 4½; Grenada Bonds, 1 per Cent., 17½; Ditto, Deferred, 4½; Guatemala Bonds, 35; Mexican, 5 per Cent., 134½, ex. Jan. Coupons, 29; Ditto, Account, 29; Peruvian Bonds, Account, 70; Ditto, Deferred, 28½; Portuguese, 4 per Cent., 36½; Ditto, Account, 37; Russian Bonds, 109½; Ditto, Scrip, 3½; Spanish, 5 per Cent., 1840, 18½; Ditto, Account, 19½; Ditto, Passive, 3½; Ditto, 3 per Cent., Account, 36½; Venezuela Bonds, 2½ per Cent., 10½; Dutch, 2½ per Cent., 55½; Ditto, 4 per Cent. Certificateds, 85½.

Although the Share Market closes flatter still the rise in the course of the Account has been sufficient to prove that confidence is gradually returning on the part of the public. The lines least encumbered by preference stock and debenture bonds must prove eventually the most profitable investment, and the public are evidently awakening to this fact. In corroboration, it will be seen where the capital account is in process of closing, and the revenue returns leave no alarms about meeting the preference stock and debenture charges, prices have steadily advanced: South Western and Brightons may be instanced as examples. At the close of the week prices stood—Berks and Hants Extension (Gt. Western, 5 per Cent. Pref.), 6 x 1; Buckinghamshire, 17½ x 1; Caledonian, 11½; Ditto, New, £10 Pref, 8½; Chester and Holyhead, Preference, 9½; Dublin and Belfast June, 6; East Anglian, £25, L. and E. and L. D., 1½; Eastern Counties, 7½; Ditto, New, Guaranteed 6 per Cent., 11½; Ditto, Extension, 5 per Cent., No. 1, 7½ pm. x 1; Ditto, Northern and Eastern, 5 per Cent., 59½; East Lancashire, 11 x 1; East Lincolnshire, 28 x 1; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 27½; Gt. Northern, 7 x 1; Ditto, 6 per Cent., 4½; Great South and West (Ireland), 29½; Great Western, 69½; Ditto, Half Shares, 33½; Ditto, Quarter Shares, 16½; Ditto, Fifths, 13½; Ditto, New £17, 9; Leeds and Bradford, 103½; London, Brighton, and South-Coast, 84½; Ditto, New, £5, Guaranteed Six per Cent., 138½; London and North-Western, 117½; Ditto, New, Quarters, 14; Ditto, Fifths, 14½; London and South-Western, 69½;

Ditto, New, Scrip, 1848, Pref. Seven per Cent., 7½; Manch., Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, One-eighth Shares (No. 3), 2; Ditto, New, £10, Pref., 8½; Midland, 44½; North British, 11½; Ditto, Quarters, 2½; Ditto, Thirds, 3½; North Staffordshire, 7½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 9½; Shrewsbury and Chester, 8 per Cent., Preference, 15½; Shropshire Union, 3½; South-Eastern, Scrip, No. 4, 6½; South Yorkshire, Doncaster, and Goole, 8½; Wear Valley, 6 per Cent., Guaranteed, 27½; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 16½; Ditto, Newcastle Extension, 11; Ditto, G.N.E. Preference, 2½ x 1; York and North Midland, 18½; Boulogne and Amiens, 7½; Namur and Liege, 7; Sambre and Meuse, 3½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—A very limited supply of English wheat has been received up to our market this week; nevertheless, the demand for all descriptions has ruled heavy, at a decline in the quotations of fully 1s per quarter, at which clearances have not been effected. Fine foreign wheats have mostly sold at full prices; but the value of the middling and inferior kinds has had a downward tendency. Malt barley has receded in value 1s per quarter; and the value of grinding and distilling sorts has been with difficulty supported. So little business has been transacted in malt, that the quotations have ruled almost nominal. Even the finest oats have sold heavily, at barely standard prices. In beans, peas, and Indian corn we have no change to notice. Inferior foreign flour has gone rather lower.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 38s to 44s; ditto, white, 4s to 48s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 38s to 40s; ditto, white, 41s to 44s; rye, 22s to 28s; grinding barley, 19s to 21s; distilling ditto, 23s to 25s; malted ditto, 25s to 29s; Norfolk and Lincoln malt, 33s to 36s; brown ditto, 45s to 48s; Kingston and Ware, 54s to 57s; Chevalier, 57s to 58s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 14s to 16s; potato ditto, 17s to 20s; Youghal and Cork, black, 13s to 15s; ditto, white, 14s to 16s; tick beans, new, 24s to 26s; ditto, old, 28s to 30s; grey peas, 25s to 28s; maple, 30s to 32s; white, 30s to 32s; bolters, 27s to 29s per quarter. Town-made flour, 35s to 40s; Suffolk, 30s to 33s; Stockton and Northshire, 30s to 33s, per 280 lb.—Foreign: Danzig red wheat, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; barley, —s to —s; oats, —s to —s; beans, —s to —s; peas, —s to —s, per quarter. Flour, American, 21s to 24s per barrel; Baltic 22s to 24s per barrel.

The Seed Market.—Canary has sold heavily, at a decline in the quotations of 2s to 3s per quarter. In all other seeds, next to nothing is doing.

Linsed, English, sowing, 54s to 56s; Baltic, crushing, 40s to 42s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 41s to 46s; hempseed, 33s to 35s per quarter; coriander, 16s to 23s per cwt; brown mustard-seed, 8s to 11s; white ditto, 6s to 9s 0d; tarax, 4s 3d to 4s 9d per bushel; English rapeseed, new, £28 to £33 per last of ten quarters; linsed cakes, English, £9 0s to £9 10s; foreign, £6 0s to £7 10s per 1000; rapeseed cakes, £4 0s to £4 5s per ton; canary, 7s to 8s per quarter. English clover seed, red, —s to —s; extra white, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, up to —s. Foreign, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, up to —s.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 5½d to 7d; of household ditto, 5d to 6d per 4lb loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 41s 0d; barley, 26s 3d; oats, 16s 0d; rye, 23s 9d; English, 38s 0d; peas, 27s 6d.

The Size Weekly Average.—Wheat, 39s 10d; barley, 26s 1d; oats, 15s 9d; rye, 23s 6d; beans, 27s 0d; peas, 28s 7d.

Duties on Foreign Corn.—Wheat 1s 0d; barley, 1s 0d; oats, 1s 0d; rye, 1s 0d; beans, 1s 0d; peas, 1s 0d.

Tea.—The public sales held this week have been fairly attended by buyers; yet the biddings have been far from active. Green teas have changed hands to a fair extent; and common sound consignments have realised 10½d to 11d per lb. The private market is steady. Sugar.—The West India market is still very firm, and prices are well supported. Fine qualities of Bengal and Mauritius support the late advance. In other kinds, very little is doing. The supplies of refined goods are increasing. Brown lumps are selling at 50s; and standard do, 51s to 52s per cwt.

Coffee.—The speculative demand for Ceylon coffees has greatly subsided, and prices have given way 2s per cwt. The present rate is 60s per cwt. Plantation kind is steady. Foreign coffees are in very moderate request, at previous rates. Accounts from Ceylon state that the market there was in a very excited state.

Rice.—Bengal is steady, at full prices, although we are without speculative purchases. In cleaned rice very little is doing.

Provisions.—Fine parcels of foreign butter are in fair request, at prices fully equal to those obtained last week. In the middling and inferior kinds, only a limited business doing. Fine Friesland is selling at 86s to 90s; fine Kial, 90s to 92s; and inferior qualities, 50s per cwt. The best Irish butter has advanced 1s to 2s per cwt. Second rate sorts are neglected. The deliveries continue good. Carlow, first, landed, 72s to 80s; Clonmel and Kilkenny, 70s to 78s; Cork, 70s to 73s; Waterford, 60s to 68s; Limerick, 58s to 66s; Sligo, 56s to 64s; and Tralee, 51s to 56s per cwt. On board several transactions have taken place, at full prices. Fine English butter is held at fully previous rates; otherwise the demand is heavy, at drooping currencies. Fine Dorset, 84s to 90s; middling and inferior, 60s to 80s per cwt; fresh, 9s to 13s per dozen lbs. The bacon market is firm, at fully late rates. Prime W. Lard is sold, landed, 45s to 47s; heavy, 43s to 44s; and Limerick sizeable, 43s to 44s per cwt. Lard and hams are quite as dear as last week.

Corn.—This market is very firm, and prices have a downward tendency. P.Y.C. on the spot, and for forward delivery, is quoted at 39s per cwt. Town tallow, 38s 6d per cwt net cash; rough fat, 2s 2d per 8lbs.

Oils.—The general demand continues steady. In prices, we have no change to report.

Spirits.—Although several additions have been made to the stock of brandy, the demand for that article is steady, at full prices. Fine qualities of rum have advanced fully 1d per gallon. Corn spirits firm, at 10s 9d per gallon net cash.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 10s to £3 10s; clover ditto, £3 10s to £4 10s; and straw, £1 2s to £1 8s per load.

Coals.—Exceedingly little business has been transacted in the coal market this week. On Wednesday only one cargo—Holywell—sold at 21s per ton. Large supplies are expected.

Hops.—A very limited business is passing in this market. To effect large sales, a decline of from 2s to 3s per cwt must be submitted to.

Wool.—Fine parcels of Colonial are scarce, and quite as dear. The value of all other qualities is well supported.

Potatoes.—Owing to the falling off in the supplies, the demand for most descriptions is fine, at higher rates, viz. from 75s to 120s per ton.

Smithfield.—Prime beasts and sheep have sold steadily, at full prices. In other kinds of stock, only a limited business has been transacted.

Beef, from 3s 0d to 4s 0d; mutton, 2s 10d to 4s 3d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 0d; and pork, 3s 4d to 4s 2d per 8 lb, to sink the offals.

Newgate and Leadenhall.—These markets continue to be heavily supplied with each kind of meat; the demand for which is steady, at full prices:—Beef, from 2s 6d to 3s 6d; mutton, 2s 8d to 3s 8d; veal, 3s 0d to 4s 0d; and pork, 2s 8d to 3s 8d per 8 lb, by the carcase.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 18.

WAR-OFFICE, JAN. 18.

2d Life Guards: E H Howard to be Cornet and sub-Lieutenant, vice Hamilton. 1st Dragoon Guards: Sir T Grealy, Bart. to be Cornet, vice Thompson. 2d J O'Hara to be Cornet, vice Godfrey. 7th J W Wetherall to be Cornet, vice Goff. 1st Dragoons: W J Cony to be Cornet, vice Ainslie. 6th: Lieut C Tower to be Captain, vice Doy. Lieut E D'Arcy Hunt to be Lieutenant, vice Tower. 9th Light Dragoons: Cornet A E Wilkinson to be Lieutenant, vice Hunt. 1st Regiment of Foot: Lieut R J E Reed to be Lieutenant, vice Minchin; S S Bristowe to be Ensign, 4th: R Robinson to be Ensign, vice Minchin. 5th: H E King to be Second-Lieut, vice Ross. 9th: J B Bastard to be Ensign, vice Skinner. 17th: W P Williams to be Ensign, vice Barthorp. 24th: Lieut G F Berry to be Captain, vice Grant; Ensign F W A Parsons to be Lieutenant, vice Berry. 26th: H Chute to be Ensign, vice Wallace. 28th: Lieut C Steevens to be Captain, vice Lees; Ensign F D Bourne to be Lieutenant, vice Steevens. 33rd: B M Kenrick to be Ensign, 35th: J Hateman to be Ensign, 40th: C H Hall to be Ensign, vice Pennafether. 51st: B G Gordon to be Ensign, vice O'Callaghan. 52nd: M Earle to be Ensign, vice Kenny. 58th: S Whittington to be Ensign, vice Cooper. 60th: T S Richards to be Second Lieut, vice Freer. 62nd: Lieut J W Minchin to be Lieutenant, vice Reed. 63rd: Ensign Chas Le Mesurier Carey to be Lieut, vice Walmsley. 65th: F F Hamilton to be Ensign, vice Williams. 66th: W Winniett to be Ensign, vice Bond. Rifle Brigade: The Hon B Legge, to be Second Lieut, vice Knight. 3d West India Regiment: A R Thompson to be Ensign, vice Hardy. Royal Canadian Rifle Regiment: T Taylor to be Ensign, vice Blake.

COMMISSION SIGNED BY LORDS-LIEUTENANT.

Yorkshire, North Riding: W Rutson, Esq., to be Deputy Lieutenant. 2d Somerset Regiment of Militia: W Planey, Esq., M.P., to be Colonel, vice Sir T B Lethbridge, Bart.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

J FOX, North-street, Bitham-green, timber merchant, F TEALE, Leyton, Essex, brewer.

BANKRUPTIES.

E DIXON, Gravesend, Kent, oil and collieryman. S SUTTON, Old Bailey, hardwareman and jeweller. G STONE, Colchester, Essex, grocer. N J HOLLOWAY, Minorities, City, clock manufacturer. J S GOWING, Swaffham, Norfolk, stationer. C WOOD, Ditching, Sussex, butcher. B JEFFRIES, Worcester, boat-builder. J HUTTON and J FISHER, Foleshill, Warwickshire, silk manufacturer. E BRATTON, Northwick, Cheshire, cabinet-maker. J EDWARDS, Holt Town, Manchester, manufacturer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

A CUMMING, Galashiels, Selkirk, merchant. R GREENSHIELDS, Lanark, innkeeper. J FLOCKHART, Alloa, grocer. D SINCLAIR, Inverary, innkeeper. W BAIRD, Milngavie, wright. A MACKAY, Pulteneytown, Caithness, leather-merchant. J BOYD, Inchyra, Perthshire, coal-merchant.

TUESDAY, JAN. 22.

BANKRUPTIES.

G HAMMOND, of the Grove, Milton-next-Gravesend, wharfinger. R FULFORD, Fulford-place, Southgate-road, Middlesex, builder. D BISHOP, York-street, St James's-square, wine merchant. J OLIVER, Queen's-road, Bayswater, plumber. R KENNET, Broadway, Wandsworth, licensed victualler. J HILTON and J FISHER, Foleshill, Warwickshire, silk manufacturers. J BANNER, Exeter, law stationer. J HIGNETT, Weaverham, Cheshire, shoemaker. W SHAW and S SHAW, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, timber merchants.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

A RANKIN and A BROWN, Glasgow, merchants. T PURVIS and Co, Glasgow, silk-mercers. J SPENCE, son, Glasgow, mason. D M'NAUGHTEN, Edinburgh, merchant. MORRISON, FERRIER, and Co, Aberdeen, wool-spinners. J RAMSAY, Edinburgh, wright.

BIRTHS.

At Fen Ditton Rectory, near Cambridge, the wife of the Rev W B James of a son.—At St Peter's, Bedford, the wife of Charles E Prior, Esq. M.D. of a son.—At Leamington, on the 16th instant, the wife of Andrew Buchanan, Esq. her Majesty's Secretary of Legation at St Petersburg, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At Wanlip, in the county of Leicester, the Rev Charles John Abraham, Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, to Caroline Harriet, youngest daughter of the late Sir Charles Palmer, Bart. of Wanlip Hall.—At Hathersage Church, the Rev Robert John Clarke, M.A., only son of the Rev A S Clarke, M.A., Enniskillen, Ireland, to Matilda, eldest surviving daughter of the late Major Shuttleworth, of Hathersage Hall, Derbyshire.—At St Aldate's, Oxford, the Rev John William Freeborn, M.A. of Worcester College, and of Binsford, Somerset, to Emily, third daughter of George H. High, Esq. of Oxford.—At Sarsden, the Rev William E D Carter,

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LINENDRAPERS TO THE QUEEN.
Established in 1778.

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Parcels of £3 sent throughout the Kingdom free of all railway carriage. LISTS, with PRICES, sent POST-PAID to Ladies, on application.

CLEARING OUT, the whole of Messrs. BEECH and BERRALL'S WINTER STOCK, amounting to several thousand pounds' value, and comprising the enormous reduction from the original cost, in order to make room for the extensive purchases for the Spring Trade. The following quotations will convey a slight idea of the many advantages now to be obtained in selecting from this stock:—Thousands of yards of striped, checked, broadened, and Glace Silks, all reduced to 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. 1s. 6d. and 2s. 4d. per yard. Black and Satinette, 10s 6d and 22s 6d the Dress. Black Watered Silks, broadened ditto, and Black Dress Satins, at the same reduction. 475 pieces of real French Merinoes (warranted all wool) now selling at 2s 2d, 2s 9d, and 3s 3d per yard—worth 1s to 1s 6d per yard more. Delaines, Cashmere, and other new Fancy Goods, now being offered at one half last month's prices. Shawls, Mantles, and Furs at astonishingly low prices. For the convenience of Ladies in the Country, patterns forwarded postage free. Address, BEECH and BERRALL, 63 and 64, Edgeware-road.—N.B. All parcels to the amount of £5 will be sent to any part, carriage paid.

CLOSE OF HOLIDAYS.—Now that the season of annual festivity is about to terminate, and the respective boarding-schools reinstated by the busy throng of youthful aspirants, their personal comforts and attractions become naturally an object of great solicitude with friends and relatives. Now it is that the ROWLANDS MACASSAR OIL, for accelerating the growth and for improving and beautifying the hair, ROWLANDS' KALYDOR, for improving the skin and complexion, and removing cutaneous eruptions, and ROWLANDS' ODONTO, for beautifying the teeth and preserving the gums, must be universally considered indispensable. The august patronage conceded by all the Sovereigns of Europe to these three articles and renovating and confirming, and the confirmation, by experience, of their infallible efficacy, have characterised them as perfect, and given them a celebrity unparalleled.

Beware of spurious imitations. The only genuine of each bears the name of "Rowlands" preceding that of the article on the wrapper or label. Sold by all the principal druggists, London, and by respectable chemists and perfumers.

SHIRTS!—The GOTHA SHIRTS, Six for 40s.,
to be had only of EBENEZER FLINT, 48, Ludgate-hill, City, and 39, King's-road, Brighton. Best coloured shirts, six for 37s. These justly celebrated Shirts are acknowledged throughout the Kingdom, and are now being ordered, and a strict test is returned, on parties sending the size round of neck, wrist, and waist.

FORD'S EUREKA SHIRTS.—Gentlemen desirous of obtaining Shirts in the very best manner in which they can be made, are solicited to try FORD'S EUREKA'S, the most unique, and the only perfect fitting shirt made. Detailed catalogues, containing lists of prices, and directions for self-measurement, sent post-free. Patterns of all the new coloured shirtings sent post-free, on receipt of six postage stamps.—Richard Ford, 185, Strand, London.

THE NOVELTY most recently introduced by Messrs. NICOLL is called NICOLL'S EIDER DOWN PALEOT; this novelty consisting in the adaptation of Eider Down in the formation of NICOLL'S PALEOT, the original elegance and utility of which is, however, faithfully preserved.

Eiders are found in greatest numbers in Iceland and the Fero Islands, where their beautiful and delicate down is well known to be proof against the most severe cold, and even the small quantity which is obtained is much valued. It is obtained from the two haws which serve in the formation of a Paleot, which, while it has most extraordinary lightness, has, nevertheless, more warmth than the finest and thickest blanket, the great desideratum for a winter garment being thus accomplished, namely, personal warmth without fatigue.

Inspection is invited at Messrs. NICOLL'S wholesale and retail warehouses, 114, 116, and 120, Regent-street, and 22, Cornhill, London.

THE NICOLL PALEOT (registered 6 & 7 Vic., c. 6) WAREROOMS, 114, 116, 120, REGENT-STREET, and 22, CORNHILL. Many have assumed the use of the word Paleot, but Messrs. NICOLL are the sole patentees of the design, and the Wholesale and Country-house Departments for the London branches in the Shipping and Woolen Trades are in Chancery-alley, Cornhill, and 120, Regent-street.

The NICOLL is the distinguishing name given to a garment secured by Royal Letters Patent from general imitation. It has all the advantages of Messrs. NICOLL'S CLOTHING. The Nicoll Paleots are charged One, Two, Three, and Four-and-a-half Guineas, according with the climate or purpose for which they may be required.

PARIAN BRACELET.—This elegant and fashionable appendage of dress, in handsome gold plate mountings, sent post free for 16s., direct from Mrs. MARY BROUGHAM, manufacturer, Burslem. The attention of Ladies is respectfully invited to this splendid production.

ARE you desirous of making a useful and elegant
Present?—If so, purchase one of F. MORDAN'S PRESENTATION GOLD PENS, which combine both qualities in the highest degree.—Sold by all respectable jewellers and stationers.—Manufacture, 13, Goswell-road

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

OXFORD.

The Regius Professor of Divinity proposes to resume the reading of Dr. Renth's *Scriptorium Ecclesiasticum Opuscula*, on Tuesday, the 5th of February. These lectures are open to all members of the University who have passed the B.A. Examination. And those who wish to attend are requested to call on the Professor between one and two o'clock on Monday, the 4th of February.

The Regius Professor of Divinity will begin a course of lectures on Thursday, the 21st of February, at one o'clock, at Christ Church. These lectures are intended for students of divinity, who have passed their examination for the degree of B.A. The professor requests those who desire to attend to deliver in their names to him on Wednesday, Feb. 20, with a written recommendation, either from the Governor of their college or from their tutor.

PREFERMENTS.—Rev. J. Rutherford, to Cranfield Vicarage, Suffolk; diocese of Norwich; value, £120, with residence; patron, Rev. E. Holland. Rev. S. W. Hanna, to St. James's Perpetual Curacy, Marylebone, diocese of London; value £350; patron, the Crown. Rev. R. Barry, to Hurdwell Rectory, Yorkshire, diocese of York; value, £590, with residence; patron, Robt. Barry, Esq., Park House, Fylingdales, near Whitby. Rev. F. Fitzpatrick, to West Roathley Vicarage, Sussex, diocese of Winchester; value, £261. Rev. E. Beger, to the Head-Mastership of the Grammar School, Helstone, Cornwall. Rev. J. A. Hessey, D.C.L., to the Preachership at Gray's Inn. Rev. G. d'Arcy Irvine, to be Chaplain to the Marquis of Normandy. Rev. B. G. Johns, to the Professorship of Latin at the Ladies' College, Bedford-square. Rev. R. Whittington, to the Sunday Evening Lectureship at St. Peter's, Cornhill. Rev. William Williams, to Llanrhalladr Mochant Vicarage, dioc. St. Asaph, co. Denbigh and Montgomery; value, £520, with residence; patron, Bishop of St. Asaph; void by the death of the Rev. Walter Davies.

VACANCIES.—Winslade Rectory, diocese of Winchester; value, £164, with residence; patron, Lord Bolton; Rev. J. Orde, deceased. Seaham Vicarage, county and diocese of Durham; value, £666; patron, Marquis of Londonderry; Rev. J. Lambert, deceased. Scremerston Perpetual Curacy, Durham, diocese of Durham; value, £120, with residence; patron, the Dean and Chapter of Durham; Rev. W. Mackay, resigned. Tuckingmill Perpetual Curacy, Camborne, Cornwall, diocese of Exeter; value, £150; patrons, the Crown and Bishop alternately; Rev. E. Crow, promoted. Aldridge Curacy, Staffordshire, diocese of Lichfield; stipend, £100; patron, the Rector of Aldridge. Warminster Curacy, Wilts, diocese of Salisbury; stipend, £100; patron, the Vicar of Warminster. Chaplaincy to the Convicts at Woolwich; Rev. S. W. Hanna, promoted. Gwaenyscor R., dioc. of St. Asaph, value £180, with residence; patron, Bishop of St. Asaph, void by the promotion of the Rev. W. Williams to Llanrhalladr Mochant.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have lately received testimonials of esteem and regard:—The Rev. H. H. Higgins, of St. John the Evangelist, Liverpool, from the congregation; the Rev. A. G. Hildyard, Curate of King's Cliffe, Lincolnshire, from the congregation, on his removal; the Rev. T. Clarke, Curate of Cyst St. George, Devon, from the parishioners; Rev. J. Lawson, perpetual Curate of Seaton Carew, Durham, from the parishioners; the Rev. F. B. Thompson, of Benfieldside, Shelleybridge, by the ladies of his congregation.

GOLD FROM CALIFORNIA.

On Wednesday, the 16th instant, an interesting paper, entitled "California, its Produce and Prospects," was read to the Society of Arts, by Mr. A. Walls, of Lime-street; being a communication from Alexander Croese, Esq., of Valparaiso. The paper included a variety of historical and statistical details of the Gold Country, and the mode of collecting the metal; at the close of which, several samples of gold from various countries were exhibited, and among them, a magnificent specimen from California, originally intended for the cabinet of



LUMP OF GOLD FROM CALIFORNIA—ACTUAL SIZE—WEIGHT, 6 lb. 8 oz. 14 dwts. 1 gr.

Queen Victoria. It weighs 6 lb. 8 oz. 14 dwts. 12 gr., and is said to be the largest and purest lump yet received. It is perfectly amorphous, the size of a small human hand, much water-worn, composed of nearly pure gold, having only on its surface a very few broken crystals of quartz in the hollows as they existed in the matrix; and, at £45 per pound, would be worth intrinsically about £300; but, from its extraordinary character, as a specimen, is valued at far above that sum. At the conclusion, the thanks of the Society were voted with applause to Mr. Walls, for his interesting paper; and the chairman requested Mr. Tennant to offer a few remarks.

Mr. Tennant said, the peculiar character of the specimen before the meeting consisted in its extreme purity; in general, it was desirable to have some of the matrix present, to enable us to judge of the parent rock. Of course, he did not say this in disparagement, as it was a most magnificent specimen, and far eclipsed one which he had purchased a few days since, which was in a glass case on the table; that, however, was a rare specimen, weighing 9½ oz., and perfectly pure. (It was engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for December 1.) He (Mr. Tennant) said he thought the gold-seekers, in their anxiety after the precious metal, were throwing away produce of still more value. In some specimens he had detected crystals of garnet, grains of platina, &c.; and he had no doubt diamonds were to be found in the debris of the Californian rocks; if so, and only fit for use as diamond dust, it was worth £50 per oz., and would well repay patient research. With respect to the quantity of gold obtained from that country, it was to a much greater extent than many persons imagined; within the past twelve months no less than 10 tons of the precious metal had passed through one house.

A vote of thanks having been passed to Mr. Tennant, Mr. Evan Hopkins proceeded to detail some of his experience in the gold-producing districts of South America.

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DESTRUCTION OF CAVERSHAM-PARK HOUSE, BY FIRE.

On Friday morning week, between seven and eight o'clock, an extensive conflagration broke out at Caversham-park, near Reading, the seat of Mr. William Crawshaw, the well-known ironmaster, situate about two miles from this town, which, we regret to state, was entirely destroyed. Mr. Crawshaw and the family being from home, and expected to return the next day, the house had for some days previously been undergoing a proper airing; and the fires having unfortunately become over heated, was the cause of the outbreak. On the domestics rising at the usual hour in the morning, a strong smell, as of something burning, was noticed, and on the drawingroom being entered shortly afterwards, a dense body of smoke and flame presented itself. An alarm was instantly raised, and a messenger was despatched to Reading for the engines, while all the labourers on the estate were hastily summoned to render assistance. The county engine was the first to arrive, which was quickly followed by the Phoenix and borough engines. In the meantime the fire had gained rapid ascendancy, the flames having penetrated several rooms communicating with the drawingroom, until at length they had enveloped the whole building. As all hopes of saving the mansion were now at an end, the efforts of the workmen present continued to be directed to rescuing such portion of the furniture and other valuable property as could be safely approached, which afterwards lay strewn out in the park. Unfortunately, no water was near at hand, there being only a pond at some distance from the house, and, in consequence, two of the engines were placed to supply the third, which played upon some out-offices, the only portion of the property which there appeared to be any chance of saving. The conflagration presented a scene of fearful grandeur, especially on some portions of the roofing giving way, when the flames burst forth with increased fury. The work of demolition internally continued unabated for several hours; and, as each portion of the burning mass gradually gave way, the utmost alarm and anxiety were felt for the safety of some of the workmen and others, who evinced great courage in endeavouring to save some portion of the household property. The roof of the large dining-hall gave way with a tremendous crash, and, all the internal portion of the mansion being now destroyed, nothing remained but the mere skeleton of the once noble residence. The outer walls gradually fell in, and the work of destruction went on so rapidly that within six hours after the outbreak of the flames nothing but a heap of ruins presented itself.

The greater portion of the household furniture, plate, and other valuable effects was saved, though other property, to a considerable amount, was destroyed.

The mansion and effects, we regret to find, were uninsured, though, singularly enough, Mr. Crawshaw had the precaution to insure all his farm property in the neighbourhood, while he deemed the insurance of his own dwelling unnecessary.

The mansion and domain once belonged to the noble family of Cadogan; it was afterwards inhabited by the Marsac family, and some few years since was purchased by Mr. Crawshaw, who is lord of the manor, and who lately enlarged the front of the mansion.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PENGE COMMON.

This neat and substantial Church has just been erected near the Almshouses of the Watermen's Company, at Penge Common, contiguous to the Sydenham station of the Croydon Railway. It is intended for the accommodation of the inmates of the Asylum, and for the inhabitants of the locality in general.

The cost of the building has exceeded £5000, the greater portion of which sum has been raised by voluntary subscription, to which T. D. Brown, Esq., has munificently contributed one thousand guineas, besides giving the ground for the site. The Church is dedicated to Saint John the Evangelist; and the patronage of the living has been granted to the Watermen's Company in perpetuity.

The style of the building is Early English, of extremely plain character, but effectively carried out, both as respects proportion and detail. The materials are Kentish rag-stone, with Bath stone dressings. The plan comprises a nave, with north and south aisles; a chancel and chancel aisle; a south porch and a vestry; the main feature being a tower and spire, about 150 feet high, which rises from the west end of the nave, and is, interiorly, open to it by a lofty arch.

The interior has a solemn effect; hereafter, we hope, to be aided by the filling of the great east window with stained glass. Already, there has been placed in the south aisle a window, representing the first two miracles of our Saviour, presented by Mr. T. D. Brown. The roof has open timber supports; there is no gallery; the pulpit is sculptured from a single block of stone; it is of octagonal form, and has a foliated bracket for the books; they are very conveniently arranged; and there are a sufficient number of free seats for the poor of the neighbourhood. The sittings are for 500 persons. All the arches and jambs, internally as well as externally, are built with properly dressed freestone; and the entire building reflects the highest credit upon Messrs. Round and Nash, the architects, Great George-street, Bermondsey; and on Mr. Myers, the contractor. The sum of £700 is still wanting to complete the building fund, notwithstanding the liberality of the neighbouring gentry.

The church was opened for divine service in October last, under a license granted by the Bishop of Winchester. Two sermons were preached on the day of opening by the Rev. Joseph Ridgeway, A.M., who has been appointed incumbent by the Watermen's Company. The consecration by the Bishop is deferred, on account of the insufficiency of funds.

CHURCH EXTENSION.—The Incorporated Society for Promoting the Building, Enlargement, and Reparation of Churches and Chapels, held a meeting on Monday, the Venerable Archdeacon Jones in the chair. The following grants were made in aid of the erection of churches at Sayers Common, in the parish of Hurstpierpoint, Sussex; at Newburgh, in the parish of Ormskirk; at Kidmore-end, in the parish of Caversham, near Reading, Berks; and at Gwersytt, in the parish of Gresford, near Wrexham. Besides these four new churches, grants in aid were made towards fitting up with seats, as a chapel of ease, a building recently purchased, situated in Crown-street, in the parish of St. Ann, Soho. Grants were also made towards rebuilding the church at Newington, near Bishop's Auckland; likewise, towards various alterations and improvements contemplated in the parish churches of Houtton, near Newcastle-in-Emlyn; Leigh, near Sherborne, Dorsetshire; Taveney, near Ditton; Esh, near Durham; and Talland, near Polperro, in Cornwall.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND.—The projectors of an electric telegraph communication between New York and the Isle of Wight will bring their plan before Congress at its present session. They propose to lay down a substantial insulated wire of thirty-six fibres, coated one-half inch with gutta serena, and to guarantee its working with perfect integrity for ten years. They offer to complete it in twenty months from the date of contract, for a sum not to exceed 3,000,000 dollars.

LARGE SNAKE.—The *Moulmein Times* (India) of October 23 states that on the previous Tuesday, a large snake, measuring 15½ feet long, was killed by Lieutenant West, of the 11th Regiment Madras Native Infantry. The snake was first seen while in the act of swallowing a fowl, the noise of the fowl having brought the servants to the spot. Lieutenant West, on the snake being pointed out to him, with his sword pierced the head through, and fixed the blade in the ground. The snake, feeling the sudden shock, immediately turned round by the tail, and in a moment coiled round Lieutenant West; but his servants being present, they succeeded in uncoiling it from his body after a long struggle, fortunately without his sustaining any injury from the embraces of the reptile.



CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PENGE COMMON.